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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1988

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THE WORLD THIS MORNING

Stocks soar

NEW YORK, (Reuters). Wall Street's blue-chip stocks reconquered the 2,000-point level in heavy trading yesterday as many investors were carried away by hopes that recent US interest rate increases had peaked. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 52.45 points at 2,008.89, its high for the day, at mid-afternoon. The Dow last closed above 2,000 on May 16.

Mandate renewed

UNITED NATIONS, (Reuters). The Security Council has unanimously approved a six-month renewal of the mandate of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) which serves as a buffer between the Syrian and Israeli Armies in the Golan Heights. The new mandate expires on Nov 30. UNDOF, established in 1974, is made up of about 1,330 officers and men from Austria, Canada, Finland and Poland.

Visit postponed

VIENNA, (Reuters). Austrian President Kurt Waldheim has postponed scheduled visits to the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait next week because they would clash with the forthcoming Arab summit in Algiers, his office announced.

Diplomatic ties

VIENNA, (Reuters). Czechoslovakia and the United Arab Emirates will establish diplomatic relations on June 1, the official Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka has reported.

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ان کے اردو صفحات میں

- پاکستان اوزیش کا صدر ضیاء کی زیر سرپرستی انتخابات میں حصہ لینے سے انکار
- پنجاب اور سرحد میں صوبائی عسکری حکومتوں کی تشکیل
- سکھ انتہاپسندوں کے تشدد کے واقعات میں ۳۶ افراد ہلاک
- پاکستان کے سیکرٹری خارجہ بات چیت کیلئے نئی دہلی پہنچ گئے
- سری لنکا نے بھارتی فوج کے اختلاص کا مطالبہ کر دیا
- پاکستان کی ہائی ٹیم نے برطانیہ کو چار گولہ سربراہی

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with moderate to fresh northerly wind causing dust. State of sea moderate to rough. High water: 1.00 am, 11.00 am. Low water: 4.00 am, 7.00 pm. Sunrise: 4.49 am. Sunset: 6.43 pm. Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 47°C (117°F). Amman: 43°C (109°F). Faisal: 38°C (100°F). Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 26°C (79°F). Amman: 29°C (84°F). Faisal: 30°C (86°F). Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 47°C (117°F). Amman: 43°C (109°F). Faisal: 38°C (100°F). Minimum temperature expected: Kuwait: 26°C (79°F). Amman: 29°C (84°F). Faisal: 30°C (86°F). Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 21 per cent. Amman: 41 per cent. Faisal: 57 per cent. Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 29 per cent. Amman: 49 per cent. Faisal: 60 per cent.

Pakistan's President may head own interim government

Opposition rejects election under Zia

KARACHI, May 31, (Reuters). Pakistan's main opposition parties said today they would not participate in election controlled by President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

"Any election held under Zia's supervision cannot be acceptable to us," Benazir Bhutto, head of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), said in a statement in reply to Zia's announcement on Sunday that he would call elections within 90 days.

Majid Mohammad Khan, convenor of the nine-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), said he agreed.

Meanwhile, diplomatic sources said Zia may himself form a caretaker government to replace the one he sacked at the weekend.

Probe

The sources, who declined to be identified, said Zia's closest aides told them as much during a briefing and reception held by the President for the diplomatic community to explain why he dismissed his government on Sunday.

Zia has said he would announce the names of a caretaker government soon.

Political analysts said Zia's unexpected dismissal of his government could be an attempt to extend his power into the 1990s, and if the opposition boycotted this election, as they did in 1983, they could seriously damage their power base.

In Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, police were seen pulling down thousands of opposition



Benazir: unacceptable



Junejo: sacked

party flags. But eyewitnesses said heavily armed troops, who arrived there yesterday ahead of Zia's televised address to explain his actions, had been withdrawn.

In Islamabad, Zia announced today that in seven days he was ordering an enquiry into the financial affairs of members of the dissolved National Assembly, the lower house of Parliament.

Powerful

Zia said former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo had allowed the country to become corrupt and virtually bankrupt.

Some political analysts said Zia may also have sacked Junejo because the prime minister was becoming too powerful and had started to interfere in Army affairs as Minister of Defence. They said Zia was already fitting loyal men into key positions. Zia can appoint about 100 new

ministers in the capital and the four provinces for a caretaker administration. Such patronage gives him great influence, said one analyst.

Today, retired General Fazle Haq was appointed caretaker head of the North-West Frontier Province, and Nawaz Sharif, dubbed "Iron man of the Punjab," was reappointed to control the Punjab. Both are known as close Zia associates. Two other ministers were also appointed in Punjab. They are: Chaudhury Abdul Ghafoor and Malik Allah Baksh Tiwana.

Base

Western diplomats said they saw no sign that the Army, commanded by Zia, had any desire to govern the country again.

This suggested Zia genuinely wanted an election and could be looking to consolidate the Pakistan Muslim League (PML) as his base in civilian politics to carry

his power through into the 1990s, they said.

Benazir, daughter of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto whom Zia deposed in 1977 and then executed on contested murder charges, said free and fair elections could only be held under the kind of supervisory body agreed before Zia's coup.

That agreement provided for an equal number of officials from both government and opposition to oversee any election.

After Zia lifted martial law in 1985, the opposition boycotted the elections, accusing election commissioner S. A. Nusrat of bias. Nusrat was appointed by Zia.

The 1985 elections were contested on an individual basis. Zia had said the next elections would be on a party basis.

"The terms of this bargain are such that the opposition parties are likely to be damned if they go along with it, and damned if they do not," said one Pakistan analyst in the Star newspaper yesterday.

Dictator

Benazir said: "No dates for an election were announced, no election schedule, no caretaker administration. Apparently he is having some trouble forming it."

"Zia is a dictator. He does not want to listen to others," said Mairaj.

In the western city of Lahore, Pakistan Democratic Party president Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan said he could not see how elections could be held in 90 days when Zia's chief election commissioner had said a year was needed to organise them.

Arafat in talks with Fahd

JEDDAH, May 31, (AP). Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat turned up unexpectedly today for talks with King Fahd ahead of the Arab summit conference.

The official Saudi Press Agency reported the meeting in this Saudi Red Sea port city without providing any details of the discussions. It only said that the meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal.

But diplomatic sources said the meeting was significant, coming as it does before leaders of the 22-nation Arab League gather in Algiers for the summit conference opening June 7 and designed to focus on the Palestinian issue.

The summit was called by Algeria to discuss means of supporting the uprising of the 1.5 million Palestinian inhabitants of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Strategy

Diplomatic sources pointed out that the Arab leaders would try to line up a common strategy on the Arab-Israeli peace-making process in light of an initiative by US Secretary of State George Shultz.

The Shultz plan calls for limited self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as a first step in a settlement to be followed by an international conference at which the future status of the two areas would be determined.

The PLO rejects the Shultz plan because it does not recognise the Palestinian right to an independent state and the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people.

The state-run newspaper Al Itihad of Abu Dhabi reported earlier in the day that Shultz has amended his plan in part to light of Arab demands but that it still does not recognise Palestinian statehood or the PLO.

26 killed in bomb blasts in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, India, May 31, (Agencies). Sikh separatists set off powerful bombs at a Hindu temple and in a crowded market in the north Indian state of Punjab, killing at least 26 people and injuring nearly 100, police said today.

Police in the Punjab state capital Chandigarh said one bomb exploded at the temple in Amritsar late last night as a gathering was ending, killing 21 people and injuring 69. Police earlier said the blast was caused by an exploding gas cylinder.

In Dinanagar, near the Pakistani border, a bomb set off in a crowded market killed five people and hurt 28 this morning, police said.

Hidden

The bomb was hidden in a plastic bag.

The blast in the Hindu town of Dinanagar, in Gurdaspur district, occurred at about 6:30 am (0100 GMT) as people were beginning their shopping, said Deputy Police Commissioner D.S. Khala. He said most of the victims were Hindus.

A note left at the spot said the blast was carried out by the extremist Khalistan Liberation Force, police said.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency also said police in the capital, New Delhi, found and defused two crude bombs in the Kailash Nagar residential area. The bombs were found in a plastic bag.

PTI said police found evidence linking the devices to extremists waging a bloody campaign for an independent Sikh homeland in north India to be called Khalistan.

Children

Police said the bomb in Amritsar, site of the Golden Temple, the holiest shrine of the Sikh religion, was set off by a timer or by remote control. The victims included 10 children and six women.

In their earlier report, police said the explosion was caused by a cylinder filled with gas used to inflate balloons, but this evening Punjab police official Chaman Lal told reporters it was a bomb.

India-Pakistan talks

NEW DELHI, May 31, (AP). Pakistan Foreign Secretary Abdul Sattar arrived in New Delhi today for two days of talks on improving Indo-Pakistan relations.

Sattar was the guest at an informal dinner hosted by his Indian counterpart, K.P.S. Menon. Formal talks were to begin tomorrow.

Indian and Pakistani officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two would renew talks on a Pakistan proposal for a

It was the worst incident in Sikh-dominated Punjab since May 18, when separatist gunmen shot dead 30 workers in a migrant labour camp and the latest in a series of bombings in the state. Eight people were killed in a bombing earlier this month.

The bombings began after security forces led by elite paramilitary commandos besieged the Golden Temple for 10 days, forcing about 150 extremists sheltering inside to surrender.

Hoax

The management committee controlling Sikh temples in most of north India today began dismantling fortifications built inside the shrine by the extremists, PTI said.

Meanwhile, a bomb scare delayed the departure of a Paris-bound Air India jet for about 16 hours, Indian newswires said.

Air India's Flight No. 123 to Paris was delayed after an anonymous caller said a bomb was aboard. A search of the plane turned up no explosives.

The blasts took place a day after a powerful committee which administers Sikh temples in most of north India defied the extremists by dismissing the five high priests of the faith.

The extremists had picked the priests earlier this year and had ordered the committee to ratify the appointments.

The dismissals brought a mixed reaction from the Sikh leadership.

The militant All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF) condemned the sackings and questioned the committee's right to take that action without seeking the approval of the entire community at a Sarbat Khalsa, or congregation of the pure.

But Amrinder Singh, a leader of the hardline United Akali Dal, welcomed the action. He said the high priests had lowered the prestige of the Golden Temple, by allowing arms into the complex housing it in Amritsar City.

The committee has named Harbharan Singh Delhi to the senior-most position among the five priests.

Israeli troops accused of brutality

TEL AVIV, May 31, (Reuters). A UN official accused Israeli troops today of random brutality and a parliamentary committee was told military excesses were the main cause of the Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

William Lee, spokesman for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, said: "There are random beatings. I believe it is pervasive, random and unprovoked, and it is used for the purposes of intimidation."

Blame

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced in January a policy of "might, power and beatings" that provoked worldwide condemnation. Countries usually friendly to Israel accused its troops of using excessive force.

Israeli Army officials say excesses have since been curbed. Knesset member Yossi Sarid of the Citizens Rights Movement

told a parliamentary committee that a senior official responsible for the occupied territories had blamed unrest on Army brutality and degradation.

Participants at the closed meeting of the foreign affairs and defence committee quoted Sarid as saying he had obtained documents showing that 5,130 people had been wounded in the uprising.

"This is an astonishing total when you bear in mind that we are talking about a war of stones in which not one of our people has been killed," he was quoted as saying.

At least 207 Palestinians and two Israelis have died in nearly six months of unrest.

UN spokesman Lee said the Army had beaten Palestinians on days when relatively little violence had occurred. Last weekend, he said troops beat 19 Palestinians, including a four-year-old boy and a man of 60.

"It has become routine. This is

the shocking thing about it," Lee said.

An Army spokesman denied Lee's accusations, saying: "The Army policy is to fight against indiscriminate beatings. We don't accept beating civilians when it is not deemed necessary. It is illegal."

Joke

At the committee meeting, Sarid told Rabin: "You have not overcome the flood of cases of excessive use of force because the investigations come too late and are negligent. They are sometimes a joke and the trial is sometimes a caricature."

In one case, Sarid said an officer and a soldier convicted of shooting dead a 15-year-old boy from the West Bank village of Azmut received respectively a reprimand and a 35-day suspended sentence.

Sarid said the trial established that soldiers deliberately delayed the boy's journey to hospital.

Boat hits mine in Gulf, one killed

ABU DHABI, May 31, (UPI). One Indian was killed and two others wounded when their small fishing boat hit a mine today off the United Arab Emirates eastern coast, the official Emirates news agency reported.

The agency quoted an official source at the Interior Ministry as saying one of the wounded was in serious condition.

The coastal waters, where the incident occurred, are just north of a major coastal anchorage off Khor Fakkan, used by tankers and other commercial vessels going to and from the Gulf.

The anchorage is the staging area for US Navy-escorted convoys of American-flagged tankers bound for Kuwait.

"The explosion destroyed the boat, killing one fisherman and injuring two others, one of whom is in serious condition," the unidentified source was quoted as saying.

In a separate development, Iran's top war spokesman told its newly-elected Parliament today that the war with Iraq was still Tehran's priority issue, Iran's national news agency Irna reported.

Superpower arms negotiations

Time to end the impasse: Gorbachev

MOSCOW, May 31, (AP). Mikhail Gorbachev won a fresh endorsement today from President Reagan for his Soviet reform programme, but the leaders only inched forward during ticklish arms negotiations and Gorbachev suggested it may be "time to bang our fists on the table" to end the impasse.

A US official said the leaders were likely to sign a joint statement during tomorrow's summit finale which spells out progress on two of the main obstacles to a long-range missile reduction treaty.

Movement came on a US proposal to verify limits on mobile missiles and on counting nuclear-tipped cruise missiles aboard warplanes, said the official, who spoke on condition he not be further identified.

Stroll

Following the day's only summit session, Gorbachev steered Reagan through Red Square, a stroll which delighted and surprised visitors, not the least when Gorbachev picked up and cuddled a little boy. Reagan said he found Red Square "wonderful." During an encounter with



Gorbachev and Reagan (right) talk with a baby in Red Square as the two took a stroll after talks yesterday morning. (Reuters wirephoto)

reporters, Reagan was asked if he still believed the Soviet Union was an "evil empire," as he described it in 1983.

Standing next to his host, Reagan said: "I was talking

about another time, another era."

Several reporters permitted access to Reagan for a few minutes described him as looking tired and possibly limping. Spok-

esman Martin Fitzwater, said: "There is no problem with the President's health," but that "he did have a difficult night's sleep."

The 77-year-old President arrived here on Sunday after a four-day rest stop in Helsinki, Finland, en route from Washington.

On their third day of talks, Reagan and Gorbachev met in the Soviet leader's Kremlin office, sitting beneath a portrait of Karl Marx and holding what Fitzwater called a largely "philosophical" discussion on perestroika - Gorbachev's economic reform effort - that ran more than an hour.

They also discussed prospects for cooling Third World conflicts.

Officials on both sides said today's agenda was devoted to bilateral issues and superpower efforts to resolve armed conflicts in Southern Africa, the Middle East and Gulf, Kampuchea, Central America and Afghanistan.

The leaders also watched and joined in the applause as Secretary of State George Shultz

(Continued on Page 2)

Soviets withdrawing from key Afghan towns

ISLAMABAD, May 31. (Reuters): Soviet forces have started to withdraw from larger Afghan towns crucial to the Soviet-backed government's defence of the country, latest Western intelligence reports say.

They are withdrawing from Gardez and Ghazni in the south-east, Kandahar in the deep south, and Herat in the far west, said Western diplomatic reports reaching Pakistan from Kabul today.

Western military sources said the gradual withdrawal of Soviet forces poses a serious threat to the morale of government troops left alone to face mujahideen guerrillas.

The reports, quoting usually reliable Afghan sources, said desertions of government troops had increased.

Government forces are now demanding to be withdrawn from the south-eastern border town of Khost which has held out against the guerrillas since Soviet forces arrived to support Kabul in 1979 and now appears threatened, they said.

Local guerrilla commanders said they would take Khost in two months. Western diplomats said it might be earlier.

Fighting

Fighting in Kandahar continues to be fierce and witnesses reported planes full of bodies returning from there to Kabul.

Some diplomats said guerrilla rocket attacks on Kabul over the past week have been the heaviest so far this year.

They reported unusually loud explosions in the city and said the guerrillas may be using a more powerful type of rocket with a longer range.

Diplomats would not confirm reports that rebel commander Ahmad Shah Massoud in the Panjsher Valley north-east of Kabul had agreed a stand-off with the Soviet command.

A spokesman for Jamiat-e-Islami said on Monday that all Soviet and Afghan troops had left the valley, which straddles the main line of Soviet retreat north.

Most guerrilla groups say they prefer to let Soviet troops go and save their strength for attacks on Kabul forces.

Meeting with Shultz just a courtesy

US peace initiative will fail: Rabin

By Susan Sappir

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 31. (Reuters): Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has said a Middle East peace initiative advanced by US Secretary of State George Shultz offers no chance of success in a year of American and Israeli elections.

The Shultz initiative, calling for an international peace conference to launch direct Arab-Israeli talks, tops the US agenda of regional issues at this week's Moscow summit between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Had it been launched a year ago, it would have had a chance," Rabin told college students on Monday.

Visit

"In the Arab world, and here, people know that a peace initiative is not something that can be achieved in a month, or three months. They know that elections are due in the US and here," he said.

Rabin met four prominent pro-Jordanian Palestinians yesterday to discuss the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip after nearly six months of an anti-Israeli uprising.

Dr Yasser Obeid, director of West Bank hospital services, quoted Rabin as saying a visit by Shultz to Israel and other Middle Eastern states later this week had no chance of success.

"He said we are receiving him because we are two very friendly countries, and our meeting is going to be a courtesy meeting, but we think that it cannot produce anything under the circumstances," Obeid told Israel Radio today.

Shultz is due to begin his fourth Middle East peace mission this year immediately after the Moscow summit.

An Israeli official said Rabin met Palestinians twice in the past week and planned additional meetings in keeping with his promise to speak to Palestinian leaders once the uprising subsided.

The official characterised the participants at a meeting last Thursday as pro-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and at yesterday's meeting as pro-Jordanian.

But Obeid said the Palestinians yesterday were dissatisfied with the meeting's outcome.

A nine-month-old Palestinian girl her left eye yesterday when she was hit by rubber bullets fired by Israeli soldiers dispersing a demonstration in the Gaza Strip's Jabalya refugee camp, hospital sources said.

An Army investigation showed the mother, carrying the girl in her arms, had been running towards her brother, a stone-thrower in the demonstration, a military spokesman said.

A southern Israeli military court convicted a soldier, private Yaacov Tamir, of killing a Palestinian in January in Gaza City's Shajia district. An Army spokesman said Tamir, who confessed to the killing, would be sentenced on Sunday.

Barrad Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev accused Arabs with anti-Israeli motives of starting hush fires in Israel.

He told reporters that in one case "an Arab boy admitted he did it because of the intifada (uprising)."

In Tel Aviv, Israel's Army

chief of staff barred two top commanders from speaking today at a conference on the Palestinian uprising, prompting organisers to cancel the event.

Aryeh Shalev, organiser of the symposium at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said the chief of staff, Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, rescinded permission he had earlier given to the commanders.

Meanwhile, legislator Dedi Zucker of the Citizens' Rights Movement submitted an affidavit to Rabin from reserve soldier Ariel Stemker, who said he saw a 12-year-old Arab boy attacked as he emerged from an Army bus transporting him to Dahariya prison near Hebron.

"A soldier started to beat the boy on the barbed wire in a deliberate attempt to injure him," Stemker wrote. "He grabbed the boy from behind, then holding him by the hair and the seat of the pants, threw him up in the air and tried to cut his face on the fence."

Stemker said the soldier ignored his shouts to stop and instead threw the boy "with all his force into a wall, head first."



● An Indian labourer tries to cool off under the spray of a burst water main in New Delhi as temperatures in north India continue to rise. (Reuters wirephoto)

Hyundai executives taken hostage

SEOUL, May 31. (UPI): Disgruntled workers at a subsidiary of South Korea industrial giant Hyundai business group held top executives hostage for a fifth day today and employees of another Hyundai-affiliated firm remained on strike for a second day.

A spokesman for the business giant said in Seoul nearly 2,000 union members of Hyundai Precision Industry Co. in Changwon, 315 km southeast of Seoul kept board chairman Chung Mong-Gu and 10 other executives from leaving the company premises.

The chairman is suffering from high blood pressure and other illnesses and requires hospitalisation, the spokesman said. "The union members would allow doctors to visit him but would not let him leave for medical care."

About 20,000 workers at Hyundai Motor Co. in Ulsan, 305 km southeast of Seoul, were on strike for the second day today, the spokesman said.

The strike was causing 2,700 units a day in lost sales, a financial loss to the company of \$18.9 million a day, the spokesman said. Of the daily output, 1,700 vehicles are for export and the rest for domestic sale, the spokesman said.

The domestic Yonhap news agency said more than 1,700 workers for Hyundai Precision voted overwhelmingly to continue their protests. Hyundai Precision produces rolling stocks and containers.

The spokesman said Hyundai Precision employees demand a wage increase worth \$180 a month. The firm's management has offered the equivalent of \$55. "There can be no (new) negotiations as long as they hold the executives," a Hyundai Precision spokesman said.

Chung, 51, went to the plant last Friday and met union leaders in a round of wage negotiations. The talks broke down and the workers' union threatened to let him leave the plant compound, the spokesman said.

Superpower summit

(Continued from Page 1)

and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze signed several secondary agreements, including a pair of arms accords.

Under one pact, the superpowers will notify each other at least 24 hours in advance of the time, place and intended target of intercontinental-range missile tests. The other sets up joint experiments this summer in Nevada and Semipalatinsk of devices to measure underground nuclear test explosions.

Reagan, continuing his campaign to promote freedom and human rights in the Soviet Union, met over lunch at the House of Writers with artists, filmmakers and writers.

Later, he told students at Moscow University that they are living "in one of the most exciting, hopeful times in Soviet history."

But despite his support for Gorbachev, the two leaders failed to achieve any breakthrough on a 30 to 50 per cent reduction in long-range bombers, land-based missiles and nuclear submarines.

Squabbling over Star Wars... Reagan's space-based defence system — and sorting out pesky verification problems stand in the way.

"I'm sure," Gorbachev said, "that if the President makes good use of his time that we have remaining, I'm sure that we will be able to prepare the treaty."

Both sides expressed a commitment to seeking agreement before Reagan leaves office next January.

Soviet officials announced today that Gorbachev will give a news conference in Moscow tomorrow — believed the first ever by a Kremlin number one on Soviet territory.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Reuters awards

LONDON, May 31. (Reuters): The Reuters Foundation has awarded fellowships to seven journalists from developing countries to study in universities in Britain, the United States and France.

The foundation said Chen Yu, a photographer on Malaysia's Malay Mail, was given the Willie Vobly fellowship to the University of Missouri. The award is named after a Reuters photographer killed in an ambush in the Philippines in 1986.

Relief warning

BEIRUT, May 31. (UPI): The Norwegian aid committee warned today it will halt its relief work in Lebanon within a week unless a Belgian doctor who disappeared 10 days ago while working for the group shows up. "Within a week, Norway will stop its operations in Lebanon unless Dr (Jan) Cools returns to us," said spokeswoman Kreisin Ingebretsen.

Plane incursion

OSLO, May 31. (UPI): The Soviet Union protested to Norway today, saying a West German sports plane deliberately strayed twice into Soviet airspace last weekend, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

"There has been a protest, chief Foreign Ministry spokesman Lasse Seim told UPI. "We don't know exactly why this happened but it is reasonable to assume that it was done in order to mark the first anniversary of Mathias Rust's flight which took place exactly a year ago," he said.

Earrings

HAMMERFEST, Norway, May 31. (Reuters): A Norwegian soldier has won the right to wear earrings on parade.

Court officials said today that two women judges in this northern Norwegian town had ruled that it was sexual discrimination to order him take them off.

Shoe-shine boys

ISTANBUL, May 31. (Reuters): Shoe-shine boys, whose colourful brass boxes and cheeky boasts of a "five-year guarantee" calve Turkey's pavements, have now won official recognition.

Seventy boys gained diplomas from Turkey's first shoe-shine school founded by Sivas province governor Lutfi Fikret Tuncel, Gunaydin newspaper reported today.

Bomb explosion

BANGKOK, May 31. (Reuters): A bomb exploded in the southern Thai town Yala, badly injuring a street trader, police today.

Police investigating yesterday's explosion said they were studying possible criminal and political motives involving radical Muslims.

Earthquake

DARWIN, Australia, May 31. (AP): A strong earthquake, centred south of the Indonesian island of Timor, jolted this northern Australian city and blacked out most of its suburbs for over an hour today.

Today we celebrate 25 years serving Kuwait.



Tomorrow we begin the next 25...

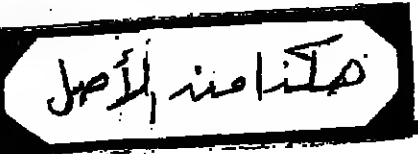
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Beauty pageant ends with a whimper

HONG KONG, May 31. (AP): Beijing's first beauty pageant ended with a whimper when organisers named 12 "girls of elegance" at a quiet evening tea party according to news reports today.

The Sunday tea party ended the strange on-again, off-again saga of the Chinese capital's first beauty contest since the communists came to power 39 years ago.

More than 800 women had signed up to participate after an April announcement that Beijing would host a contest to select 10 "girls of youth and elegance."

Preliminary rounds narrowed the field to 50 contestants. The Beijing contest ignited beauty pageant fever throughout the country, setting off a debate about whether they were appropriate in a country with a low standard of living.

Under increasing pressure, some cities quickly dropped plans to name local beauty queens.

Shanghai called off its contest earlier this month, claiming "conditions were not ripe."

Arms bound for Fiji seized

SYDNEY, May 31. (Reuters): Australian customs said today they seized a large cache of arms bound for Fiji including machine-guns, grenades, anti-tank mines, mortar shells and rocket launchers.

"It's enough to start a small war," spokesman Alastair Wilson told a news conference. "It frightens me."

The container in which the arms were concealed arrived here aboard the vessel Auro Australia from the North Yemen port of Hodeidah, he said. It was seized as it was about to be loaded aboard the French-registered Capitaine Cook II bound for the Fijian port of Lautoka.

A spokesman for the Capitaine Cook II's owners, Sofrano-Unilines, said: "We are obviously totally innocent. We take cargo at face value."

Fiji has had two military coups in the past year and is now ruled by a military-appointed civilian government.

Exclusive property in Bangalore & Madras

Bangalore
Exclusive residential apartments offered to you by a reputed construction group:

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3 bedroom residential units in a building of 15 apartments. Construction in progress. Many flats already booked by reputable corporate groups.
2. **Marble Arch — Richards Town**
Residency style apartment block with only 21 units. Construction to commence before 30th June 1988. Booking already started.

Madras

Prime commercial space available on lease ownership for shops, showrooms, restaurants, travel agencies and offices in Royala Towers, at 781 Mount Road, Madras. Located in the heart of Madras city, the project is targeted for completion within 12 months.

Government approval No. MMDA/PP/4910 dated 6.5.88.

Director from India visiting Kuwait from 1st June.

Contact: Mr. Indrajit Singh Khatri
Kewal Sharda Hotel
Phone: 2422055

Mr. Gopalakrishnan
Phone: 5720104 (Res.)

Attempt to bomb Tehran foiled

NICOSIA, May 31. (Reuters): Iranian forces have seized explosives hidden in a truck intended for a bombing attack on the capital, Tehran, the national news agency Irna said today.

Irna, in a report received in Cyprus, said "foreign inspired elements" intended to plant the 30 kgs of explosives in a business area in Tehran and explode it.

The agency said in a dispatch from Sanadaj, 60 km from the Iraqi border in north Iran, the explosives were intercepted by revolutionary guards last week but did not say if there were any arrests.

Two men were killed and one escaped on May 10 when a bomb they tried to plant on a railway connecting Tehran to the Gulf war fronts exploded.

Iran hanged 14 men between December and February at the sites of bombs they had planted which killed dozens of people.

Working hours at all health centres extended

KUWAIT'S Public Health Ministry will extend the working hours at all health centres from 7 am to 2.30 pm, including Thursdays, Fridays and official holidays, effective today.

In a circular issued by the ministry's Undersecretary Nael Al Naqib, it was announced that the decision was based on the outcome of a meeting held with

the Assistant Undersecretary for Technical Affairs, Tarek Abdul Jader with the heads of outlying medical centres at the various health areas.

Compensated

Dr Al Naqib said that doctors, pharmacists, nurses and lab and X-ray technicians would all work the new hours in an effort to improve health services.

In the meantime, Dr Sami Matar, the director of medical services at the Ministry of Health, said ten new centres were recently opened in new housing areas.

He added that health centres would open 15 hours a day. Effective Wednesday, all medical and nursing staff would work seven and half hours a day instead of the previous six and half — including Thursday and shift-work on Fridays and holidays. Staff would be compensated for the additional working hours. He urged patients to visit centres well before closing hours to allocate doctors adequate time to diagnose.

Training

A co-operative effort between the Ministry of Health, Medical Specialisation Institutes and the British Royal College has been instituted to train general practitioners in providing sophisticated medical services to patients at the health centres. He described the programme as ambitious, and modelled on lines followed in advanced countries. Presently, family medicine services are dispensed at Qadisiya and Maidan Hawali health clinics. A number of doctors who graduated from the Royal College in the UK are now committed to training new graduate doctors to specialise in family medicine.

The director confirmed the ministry would begin its new health registration system, at Shamiya and Qadisiya areas during the coming month. The system is expected to be in force in all areas of Kuwait within 18 months the director said.

Um Jihad hails Kuwait's support to uprising

INTISAR AL WAZIR hailed Kuwait's distinguished and continuous support to the Palestinian uprising to the occupied Arab land.

In statements to a Kuwaiti newspaper published yesterday, Um Jihad, wife of the late Palestinian leader Khalil Al Wazir, said her meeting yesterday with the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah focused on the Palestinian situation in general.

Sheikh Saad, she said, expressed fraternal feelings toward the martyrdom of Abu Jihad.

She called for supporting the struggle of the Palestinians, especially women, under the Zionist occupation.

In a statement to another Kuwaiti newspaper, Um Jihad said the uprising will continue until liberation and independence.

"The children of the stones" have paralysed the Israeli tanks and revealed the fascist essence



Intisar Al Wazir

of the Zionist state, she added. She arrived here last Sunday to attend today's 40th day memorial of Abu Jihad who was assassinated in Tunis last month by Israeli spy service agents.

Prince Badr tours arms plants in Cairo



President Hosni Mubarak (left) greets Deputy Chief of Saudi Arabia's National Guard, Prince Badr, yesterday.

CAIRO, May 31, (Reuters): The Deputy Commander of Saudi Arabia's National Guard toured factories producing short-range missiles, electronics and other military equipment in Egypt today.

Prince Badr Bin Abdul Aziz earlier told reporters the issue of Saudi participation in military production projects with Egypt "posed no major problem."

"We have agreed on every-

thing and cooperation between the two countries will continue in all spheres," he said after talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates were partners with Egypt in the Cairo-based Arab Organisation for Industrialisation (AOI), but quit the arms production group after Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

High hopes on Arab summit

JEDDAH, May 31, (Kuna): Saudi Monarch King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz has expressed hope that the upcoming extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to Algiers next June 7th will succeed and reach its goal to serve the Arab and Islamic nations.

This came during the Saudi Cabinet session, held yesterday under the presidency of King Fahd.

Following the session the Saudi Information Minister Ali Al Shaer said that King Fahd explained the kingdom's stance toward events and developments, and asserted Saudi Arabia's keenness on continuing efforts to achieve security and stability in the Arab region, ending conflicts and military confrontations on some Arab states peacefully, to avoid more tensions and security turmoil.

Al Shaer reported that the Cabinet was briefed by Oil and Mineral Resources Minister Hesham Nazer on the situation of oil market during the last period following the recent Opec meeting.

He added that King Fahd instructed Nazer on measures that should be taken in the next Opec meeting in an aim of protecting the Saudi economic interests.

Attas invited to visit Iraq

ADEN, May 31, (Kuna): South Yemeni President Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas has received a written message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, on bilateral relations and developments in the Arab arena.

Aden Radio reported last night that the message also included an invitation for President Al Attas to visit Iraq.

The message was conveyed by Iraqi Ambassador to South Yemeni Nazeq Abdul Hamid, during a meeting with President Al Attas in Aden yesterday.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

HH the Amir yesterday received HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, commander of the National Guard, Sheikh Salem Al Ali Al Sabah and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Crown Prince audiences

HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received the Ministers of Defence, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed; Communications, Abdel Mohsen Al Sharran and Ahmad Governor Sheikh Al Sabah Al Salem.

Sheikh Saad also received the director of the PLO office in Kuwait Awmi Batash, Salah Khalaf and Salim Zanoon.

The Crown Prince and Premier also received Justice Undersecretary Nasser Al Roumi, Hamoud Al Roumi and Hamoud Al Nisef.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Arabs told not to expect too much from Moscow summit

A KUWAITI daily yesterday told the Arabs not to attach hopes on the US-Soviet summit in connection with the Mideast.

Editorially commenting on the Gorbachev-Reagan summit in Moscow, Al Rai Al Aam said Arabs "should not expect too much" from the meeting and instead they should depend on themselves to secure military and political power.

During their summit conference in Algiers next month, the daily said, Arab leaders should adopt a positive initiative in support of the uprising after it has become evident that the Israelis and the Americans have failed to abort the almost six-month-old uprising.

The call for strike during the superpowers' summit was mainly aimed at reminding the US and Soviet leaders that there is an issue in the occupied Palestinian territories which has to be discussed as well, not only human rights in other places, it added.

Human rights of the Palestinian people must also be considered and given new perspectives, the paper concluded.

More KAC flights to Baghdad

BAGHDAD, May 31, (Kuna): The Kuwait Airways Corporation starts a third weekly flight to Baghdad as of first of June.

Director of the KAC office here Abdul Rahman Al-

Dhubabi told Kuna Tuesday that to face the increasing demand during the summer season a third weekly flight to Baghdad will be launched as of tomorrow until early September.

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900,000 visited exhibitions

ASPOKESMAN for the Kuwait International Fair said more than 900,000 people visited the exhibitions hosted by the Kuwait International Fair during the period January to March 1988.

The spokesman went on to say the exhibitions hosted were aimed at fostering Kuwait's experience and to gain international recognition as a suitable venue for hosting international exhibitions of a commercial, economic and scientific nature.

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UK military team ends visit

VISITING British military delegation headed by Vice-Chief of UK Defence Staff General Richard Vincent yesterday left after an official three-day visit to Kuwait.

General Vincent and the accompanying delegation met with HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and Chief of Staff Major General Mubarak Al Sabah.

Prior to departure, the UK military delegation held official talks with top Kuwaiti military officials headed by Defence Ministry's Undersecretary Faisal Al Dawood during which they reviewed ways of fostering relations between the two countries and current situation in the Arab Gulf region.

The delegation was seen off by Kuwaiti Deputy Chief of Staff, British ambassador to Kuwait and a number of senior military officials.



● The head of the Indian National Defence College Air Marshal P.K. Puri (left) is being introduced to guests by Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha (centre) who hosted a reception in honour of the Indian defence delegation on Monday at the embassy.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

Quality of goods at popular markets bad

Customers feel cheated

A NUMBER of interviews were held with consumers to obtain their views on services provided by popular markets.

One of the customers, said some popular market owners not only cheated on quality of goods, but also charged higher prices for commodities. He called on officials to pay a single visit to these establishments where they would have evidence of old stocks, defective products and high prices. Another customer, concurring with him, added that especially where foodstuffs and other consumer goods are concerned, authorities should impose severe penalties, including closing down the offending markets. She added that prices in some popular markets were even higher than supermarkets in Kuwait.

A customer, Mohamed Faleh, stated that due to strong competition among popular markets, most display more goods with a wide range of prices which

cause confusion among consumers.

Salim Abu Saif urged owners of popular markets to organise their markets to make it easier for customers to shop. He believed a market guide for customers would be appreciated.

Riyadh Mahmoud, an owner of a popular market, said the spread of popular markets played a vital role in resolving the economic crisis in the country. He added that to say all markets cheated was generalising, though, he did not deny that some instances of cheating do exist. His profits, he said ranged between 5 to 10 per cent, depending on whether his products were obtained from the local market or abroad.

Defective Another popular market owner, said that most customers look for the cheapest goods, forcing owners to sell defective goods which were obtained from factories in south East Asia —

especially old stocks which are repacked and sold. He urged the Ministry of Commerce to prevent the wide spread of markets as, having too many markets, caused low or no profits and contributed to the complaints of cheating, damaged, old stock or spurious goods.

Ali Mohamed Al Sarawi, a representative of one of the trading companies, said that popular markets do thriving business and this is attributed to the increase in their number. As customers are keen in choosing their requirements—especially in the tight existing economic conditions, he called upon officials to conduct vigilante inspection measures.

Fayez Mohamed Ibrahim stated that popular markets played a vital role in making shopping easier for consumers as all items were available under one roof and most of these markets were ideally located in populated areas.

Egyptian official discusses Arab issues with Sheikh Sabah



Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed received yesterday the Foreign Relations Committee of the Egyptian Assembly Mohamed Abdulla.

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed met yesterday with chairman of the Egyptian parliamentary affairs committee and secretary general of the ruling National Party Dr Mohammad Abdulla who is currently visiting Kuwait.

The meeting was attended by Egyptian Ambassador to Kuwait Saeed Rifaat. Sheikh Sabah told Kuna that the discussions tackled bilateral relations as well as a number of current Arab issues.

Dr Abdullah renewed an invitation from Egyptian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Dr Estmat Abdel Meguid to Sheikh Sabah to visit Cairo.

Cooperation

Sheikh Sabah later received Bahraini Information Minister Tareq Al Muayyid on the occasion of his visit to the country.

The meeting was attended by Information Minister, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al

Sabah. The discourse touched on bilateral relations and international issues in general.

Sheikh Sabah also received British Ambassador to Kuwait Robert Hinchcliffe for a discussion of cooperation between the European Economic Community and the Gulf Cooperation Council in addition to Kuwait-Britain relations.

The British envoy could not attend yesterday's meeting in the Foreign Ministry between Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, and EEC ambassadors to Kuwait.

Kuwait-Bahrain ties strong: Muayyid



HH the Amir yesterday received the Bahraini Information Minister Tareq Al Muayyid (centre). The meeting was attended by Kuwait's Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah.

VISITING Bahraini Information Minister Tareq Al Muayyid yesterday praised the strong ties between Kuwait and Bahrain and described the two Arab Gulf states as constituting "a one solid family".

Al Muayyid in a statement to Kuna following his meeting with HH the Amir of Kuwait and HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, said that he conveyed regards of the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salmao Al Khalifa and those of the Crown

Prince and the Prime Minister.

The Bahraini official praised the pioneer role of the Kuwaiti media which he said gained world respect, despite the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the media movement in Kuwait.

Bahrain and Kuwait are looking for more cooperation in all information fields, Al Muayyid added.

The Bahraini official who is accompanied by a senior delegation from the Ministry of

Information, is on a two-day official visit to Kuwait in response to an invitation by Kuwaiti Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad.

On the other hand, Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak last evening hosted a dinner banquet at Kuwait SAS Hotel in honour of the Bahraini minister and the accompanying delegation.

The Kuwaiti-Bahraini official talks are scheduled for today.

Work team to produce joint Gulf programmes

MEETINGS of the programme committee of the Gulf Television Authority came to a close yesterday by endorsing a number of resolutions, topped by entrusting a specialised work team with producing joint Gulf programmes.

The committee also recommended that it meets twice a year, according to the alphabetical order of the names of the seven member states Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, UAE, Qatar and Oman.

The co-ordinators also agreed upon entrusting the authority with setting up an annual timetable which includes the type of programming required from each Gulf television, in order to produce the Gulf television variety magazine.

Regarding the joint programming production, the committee

got acquainted with the authority's efforts on encouraging and upgrading this kind of programming.

The committee also discussed the matter of collective purchasing of Arabic and foreign serials and reached the conclusion that this procedure will reduce the cost of these programmes.

As for the memo referred by Kuwait Television and the Gulf Television Authority on implementing the special study of upgrading the exchange of news and programmes, the committee decided to make a good use of the weekly news casts which are exchanged between Gulf and other Arab states.

Finally, the participants decided that the next meeting be held in January of 1989 in the United Arab Emirates.

Blast on tanker worsens leak of toxic ammonia

DUBAI, May 31. (Reuters): An explosion on a Liberian tanker has worsened a leak of toxic ammonia that began when the vessel was attacked last week by Iranian gunboats, shipping sources said today.

Workers on the 15,530-tonne Muodogas Rio at anchor in the Gulf of Oman fought to repair fresh damage after the blast on Monday, possibly caused by an unexploded grenade fired in Thursday's raid.

S. Arabia to host medical conference

RIYADH, May 31. (Kuna): King Faisal Specialized Hospital will organise an international medical conference here on June 5 on the impact of viruses on medical care and services in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The five-day gathering will review research and a number of papers, including 28 from Saudi Arabia.

Other participants will come from France, the U.S.A., Canada, Britain, Sudan, Australia, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Botswana, Syria and Iraq.

Prince Sultan to be treated for orthopaedic problem

BIRMINGHAM, May 31. (AP): The Defence Minister for Saudi Arabia has arrived to be treated for an orthopaedic problem by a Birmingham doctor, officials said.

Mike Immel, executive director of the Alabama sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center, said Prince Sultan Bin Abdul Aziz would be examined today by Dr James R. Andrews, who is one of six orthopaedic surgeons with the medical group.

Immel said yesterday he did not know yet if surgery will be performed on Aziz, a member of the Saudi Royal Family who serves as Saudi Arabia's Second Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Aviation, and Inspector General.

"We're going to examine him to determine what if anything needs to be done beyond that point," Immel said.

Immel did not release further details of the ailment, but Jay Zines, administrator for clinical services at South Highlands Hospital, said it involved one of the Defence Minister's knees.

Zines said Aziz probably would be admitted to the hospital today.

Andrews has treated members of the Saudi royal family for at least 10 years. The doctor used to have a medical practice in Columbus, Georgia, where he met members of the royal family at the Fort Benning Army Post, Immel said.

Large number of residents making changes to NHA houses

A FIELD research conducted by a local news agency on government houses west of Fintas distributed recently to citizens indicated that a large number of these citizens had made several changes to their new homes. The daily reported that most changes involved breaking of fronts, main concrete pillars and bridges of the houses — all considered dangerous. Additionally, the daily reported that the majority of these alterations were done without obtaining prior permission from the relevant authorities.

It also added that citizens spent huge amounts to achieve these changes which had originally cost the state large sums when built by the Housing Authority (NHA). Additionally, these changes damaged the original installations and buildings.

The daily commented that the number of owners undertaking changes indicate that the designs of the houses were not preferred by their owners, even though, they had signed pledges not to make changes without obtaining previous permission from the NHA and the Municipality.

In a related development, the director general of the NHA, Dr Ibrahim Al Shaheen appealed to



Picture shows changes to building west of Fintas.

citizens granted government houses not to make alterations—especially when they do not possess official permission. He stated that present housing plans gave no excuse to citizens to make changes as they had options to obtain land and loans to build houses of their own

designs instead of opting for government houses. He confirmed that the NHA's regulations and the decisions of the Council of Ministers and the Higher Housing Council prohibit undertaking changes and made owners involved in such changes liable to legal action.

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain seek to boost trade ties

RIYADH, May 31. (Kuna): Saudi Commerce Minister Dr Suleiman Al Saleem received here today the visiting Bahraini Trade and Agriculture Minister Habib Kassem.

After the meeting, Al Saleem told SPA that they had discussed issues pertaining to commercial exchanges between the kingdom and Bahrain through King Fahd causeway.

He added that bilateral commercial exchanges has witnessed remarkable rise following the inauguration of the causeway.

The meeting was attended by Commerce undersecretary Dr Abdel Rahman Al Zamil and undersecretary for Supplies Tawfiq Al Tawfiq and senior officials.

For his part, Kassem said his visit to the kingdom comes in the framework of efforts to enhance bilateral relations.

He added that the ratification of unified economic accord would enhance relations among the GCC states.

Later in the day, Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Mubammad Aba Al Khalil conferred with the visiting Bahraini Trade and Agriculture Minister Habib Kassem on transit of goods through King Fahd causeway, linking Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

After the meeting, Aba Al Khalil said the causeway had enhanced commercial exchanges between the two countries.

Saudi Information Centre opened in Tunis

TUNIS, May 31. (Kuna): On behalf of Information Minister Ali Al Shaer, Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Tunisia Ibrahim Al Ibrahim and Tunisian Information Minister Abdulwahab Abdullah inaugurated the new headquarters of the Saudi Information Centre and SPA's office in Tunis.

The function was attended by Tunisian Communications Min-

ister Ibrahim Khawaja, several ambassadors from GCC, Arab, Islamic and friendly countries to Tunisia and officials in-charge of cultural and information organisations.

It was also attended by Matouk Shalabi, the Saudi Assistant Information Undersecretary for administrative affairs.

The information centre's library contains books on Islamic, information, literary and historical topics.

TV

The centre also includes a broadcasting and television network, comprising information materials on aspects of the kingdom's development.

It also includes an auditorium for lectures, seminars, meetings and formative exhibitions.

Speaking on the occasion, Tunisian Information Minister Abdulwahab Abdullah highlighted the existing friendly relations between the kingdom and Tunisia.

He said the Saudi Information Centre will enable pressmen to perform their mission in a satisfactory manner.

Referring to the meetings of Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali and Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz, he said they will have a positive impact.

GCC power committee to meet

GCC Regional Committee for electrical energy systems of higher pressure are scheduled to hold their second meeting at the GCC General Secretariat premises in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on Thursday, June 2.

The committee would also be arranging regular meetings to be held by officials in the electricity sector of the member states.

The establishment of the committee was aimed at encouraging the national cadres in fields of scientific research and set up in accordance with the GCC electricity ministers recommendations adopted in their second meeting held in Kuwait in 1985.

The laws and charters were endorsed by the ministers during their third meeting held in Riyadh in 1986.

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VIDEO CORNER

Rediscovering Finney

By Brian Hollis

ALBERT Finney was one of the great British filmstars of the neo-realist school of the early sixties. Films like *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* and *The Entertainer* were guidelines for behaviour to many. But whatever happened to Finney? Over the past five years he has appeared in roughly one film per year, invariably playing the drunk or down-and-out middle-aged bum. And he plays the part too well for an amateur!

In *Orphans*, Finney staggers onto the scene as a benign Chicago businessman, on a drunken spree in New York. A minor hoodlum called Treat takes him home to sleep it off in the hope of conning him of some money. Finding stocks and shares in Finney's briefcase, Treat and his brother tie him up, expecting to extract a large kidnap ransom. However, Finney is in reality a benign Chicago gangster who has no difficulty in extricating himself from the clutches of the two brothers. He realises that Treat has isolated and dominated his brother Philip, not allowing him to leave the house and treating him generally as a retard. Harold blows Philip's enclosed world wide open and teaches him to gain a measure of self-confidence. At the same time he subtly undermines Treat's position by offering him money and the lure of power. In reality he has stripped Treat of his position as head of household and breadwinner, and turned him into a slave to his every wish and whim.

Matthew Modine (star of *Birdy*), which is hailed as

Kuwait) plays a very believable psychotic Treat, and Kevin Anderson is the open-eyed younger brother. But although the film contains some powerful and sometimes very funny scenes, it does not quite hang together. A slow start builds up to an excellent middle half of the film, but then fades into an unworthy ending. The film is directed by Alan J. Pakula, better known for such successes as *Kluge* and *All The President's Men*.

The US has been meddling in the internal affairs of various Central American countries for quite some years — perhaps, since the Mexican revolution. According to Walker, American intervention goes back to the 1950's when business magnate Cornelius Vanderbilt sent Colonel Walker and his ragtag army to civilise Nicaragua under the flag of democracy and freedom, but with the underlying business motive of controlling the overland route to the Pacific. Walker, an historical figure, is portrayed as a failed fanatic, who following an abortive invasion of Mexico, and the death of his wife, accepts Vanderbilt's offer to set up a 'free', pro-American government in Nicaragua. In spite of unbelievable mishandling of his 'invasion' luck refuses to forsake him, and he ends up as governor. He becomes increasingly despotic and destroys the country.

The interesting thing about this film is the attempt to link the past with the present. Firmly settled in 1855, we suddenly see a 1987 Mercedes turning past. Later Walker picks up a copy of 'Time' with his picture on the cover, and we are treated to a flash of the bright



Albert Finney, Matthew Modine and Kevin Anderson in *Orphans*

neon lights of Kansas City. To top it all, when Walker's men are about to be annihilated by the irate peasants, the helicopters arrive a la Vietnam, to take all but Walker to safety. So apart from the interest of the film itself, you can simultaneously play the game of 'spot the anachronism'. This film has certainly received some finance somewhere from sympathetic causes, but apart from its propaganda value, it's quite good entertainment.

Several of Robert Ludlum's thrillers such as *The Domino Principle* have already been transferred to the screen. The latest in the line is *The Bourne Identity*, made as a two tape best seller starring Richard Chamberlain and Jaclyn Smith. After a shooting incident aboard a trawler, an almost dead body is washed up

in France and treated by the local doctor. Although the man (Chamberlain) suffers from total amnesia, a microchip buried in his skin mentions a Zurich bank account in the name of Jason Bourne. The search for his real identity uncovers a complex plot involving international terrorism and the CIA, and oo the way he picks up a passing doctor (Jaclyn Smith) who soon becomes hopelessly involved. The movie is fast paced and complex — perfect TV entertainment. But who can believe baby faced Chamberlain as a highly trained invincible CIA hitman? Hopefully the casting director will in future leave him where he belongs as either priest or lover boy.

If you like the more mainline American — hestseller, the *Onassis* — *The Richest Man in*

the World is exactly the thing. A slick and expensive production starring Raul Julia as Onassis and Jane Seymour as Jackie, this six hour show unlocks the secrets of the 'marriage that mystified the world', according to the blurb. Did she really love him or was she only after the money? These vital questions and more are oo answered for the cost of renting two video tapes.

Viewers wanting an alternative to the regular video films can watch *Sieve Davis* pit his skills against Cliff Jones in the world snooker final, or see rare footage of *Buddy Holly* in action oo a 'super night of rock 'n' roll'.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas; Video Naut, Saliha and Video Club, Salmiya.



The show's composers, Derek Hicks, with the messed ranks of the choir.



US Embassy Counselor James Hooper on Monday hosted a reception to say goodbye to Lee James Irwin, the embassy first secretary. Irwin is leaving Kuwait shortly after a three-year term of duty. Above: Hooper (left) with Irwin (centre) and Canadian Ambassador David McCracken.

She sure got rhythm

By Keith Wells

I HAVE been a fan of Reem Kelani's ever since I heard her sing at a folk concert last year. On Thursday she is starring in 'I Got Rhythm' at the Regency Palace and after attending last night's rehearsal I can promise that the show is just about the best we've seen in Kuwait for a very long time. My advice is to get there early and see it.

But be prepared to shed a tear or two, as well as smile. The show packs a real emotional wallop that is rarely found in amateur productions. This is partly due to Reem's stunning voice, but she also has a backing choir of 57 kids from almost as many nationalities, singing songs like 'Let it Be', 'We are the World' and 'The Greatest Love'. It's a very potent combination that brings a definite lump to the throat. One of the unexpected marvels of the show is little Reza Mohammed, a ten year old pianist, who had the adult musicians goggling with amazement and envy.

From the opening song, 'I Got Rhythm', you know you're in for a great evening. Reem mixes pop songs with some powerful Palestinian folk songs and lots of standards like 'Georgia On My Mind', 'Stormy Weather' and 'New York, New York'. She manages to switch effortlessly from the cabaret sophistication of

Fred Astaire's 'Top Hat' to the haunting 'When the Horsemen Ride By' and back to a hustling 'Chattanooga Choo Choo'.

The kids' choir, directed by Jean Chinn, do a fabulous version of 'Alexander's Ragtime Band', they're all as keen as mustard and it's a real finger-snapping, toe-tapping swing-along-a-glorious song, that will have the audience on its feet and shouting the house down.

The concert is being held to raise funds for the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians, MAP, the organisation which employed Dr Pauline Cutting O.B.E. in Bourj Al Barajneh camp in Beirut. Produced by Kary Langley and directed by Glens Muckle the show is composed by Derek Hicks who tells some moving stories of individual Palestinian children who have been maimed or crippled in the fighting in Lebanon and the West Bank. Whatever one's politics, it is undeniable that the children of the camps have inherited a tragic legacy through no fault of their own. When they are wounded, paralysed or disfigured by the fighting, MAP does its best to help to restore them to as near a normal life as possible.

After the show, dinner will be served and there will also be a raffle for prizes which have been donated for the charity funds.

● All entries for the What's On column must be handed over personally to Events Section, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Boushahri Gallery
Watercolour paintings by Yugoslav artist Jovica Prodopovic is open at the Boushahri Gallery, Salem Al Mubarak St, Salmiya, from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.40 pm until June 9.

CINEMA

Kuwait Cine Club
"Three Classic Evenings" is being held at the Kuwait Cine Club. The remaining programme is as follows:

WEDNESDAY: Act Without Words (French, 1958, 10 min); D. Guido Bettio & Bruno; The Stringbean (French, 5 min); D. Edouard Sechan; The Magician (Polish, 12 min); D. Tad. Makarczyński; Labyrinth (Polish, 14 min); D. Jan Leonic; Renaissance (French, 1963, 10 min); D. Valerian Borowinski; La Jete (French, 1962, 30 min); D. Chris Marker.
All films will be screened at 7.30 pm at the Kuwait Cine Club premises, Baed Al Qar, 8

Sheriff Al Radhi St., nr. Indian Embassy.

THEATRE

Bengali Cultural Society
The Society will present "Bichhao", a Hindi drama based on a story by Bengali novelist Mahasweta Devi, on June 2, 3 and June 9, 10, 7.30 pm, at the Mousetrap Theatre, New English School. The play is part of celebration of the 40th Indian independence anniversary. For reservations contact 3903976; 3901806; 5621379.

Sounds Great

Sounds Great, a pop-rock musical, will be performed at Salmiya Cinema on June 10, 5pm and 8pm. The show will feature Juke Box band with June Stevenson and Top Ranks with Adolf. Farewell appearance of Paul Fraser. Introducing Walid Al Nimer who will dance to Michael Jackson's top hit "Bad". Produced and directed by Ken Winston. Tickets — KD.5. For reservations ring 5740256/7; 5516991; 5758870.

I Got Rhythm

A musical show featuring Reem Yusef Kelani will be presented in the Grand Ballroom, Regency Palace

Hotel, on June 2, Thursday.
Tickets — KD10 including dinner. Produced and directed by Glens Muckle and Kerry Langley. All proceeds will be donated to the British charity Medical Aid for Palestinians to help Dr Pauline Cutting, OBE, and her team, to provide medical care for refugees. For reservations call 5718143; 5387755; 2627003; 5330934.

KLT

KLT's musical Brigadoon opens with a gala performance on June 1, 7.30 pm. Further performances are at 5.30 pm on June 2, 3; and at 8.15 pm on June 7, 8 and 9. Tickets — KD.3. Children — KD.2. For reservations call 3983724.

SOCIAL

German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee morning for German-speaking ladies will be held on June 5, Sunday, from 10 am at the Kuwait Hilton's Old Falaka Room. All German speakers are welcome.

Players Ball

Kuwait Players' end of season ball on Thursday, June 9, KD.7 per person. For details phone 5330934; 5613465; 5611546.

Sax aur Awaz

An Indian music group presents "Geeton Bhari Sham", their second concert, at the IAC, Funaites, on Thursday, June 16, 8 pm. For reservations phone 3985456 or 5638026 after 5 pm.

Contact

The next meeting of the ladies information group, Contact, will be held on June 11, from 10 am, at the SAS Hotel. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. Tel. 3949807; 4374513; 5383999.

NRI Meeting

The Non-Resident Indians (NRI) Annual General Meeting will be held at IAC, Funaites, on June 7, 7.45 pm. All NRI members and their wives are welcome. State Bank of India officials will give a talk on capital markets. A contributory dinner will follow.

Badesik Re-union

The Bangladesh Diploma Engineers Society in Kuwait, Badesik, will hold an Eid re-union and a cultural programme, with dinner, on Friday, June 10, at the Meridian's Banquet Hall, 6 pm. All Bangladesh diploma engineers can take part. Tel: Altafur Rahman — 9015166; Ansar Ali — 4571603.

Kuwait Players

The Players will hold their social get-together on Wednesday, June 1. Tel: 5330934; 5613465.

Kuwait Singers

"Songs for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held on June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57; 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

SPORTS

PBAK General Meeting

The Philippine Bowlers Association in Kuwait, PBAK, will hold their second general meeting on Friday, June 3, at Mahuhay Restaurant at 5.30 pm. They will discuss the forthcoming men's and women's doubles, membership drive, howling choices and other activities. For details contact Sarah Macarimbang on 484-3447.

KINAGM

All members of the Kuwait India Football Federation (KIFF) are requested to attend the 1987/88 annual general meeting on June 3, 10 am, at the Indian Embassy premises.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 2.25 Holy Quran
- 2.30 World News via Satellite
- 3.30 Cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 Beer Al Tayi: Arabic serial, starring Hussein Abu Sarah, Lina Al Tall, Rabeeh Shihah. Last episode.
- 5.30 Variety Show
- 6.00 Cultural Film
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.05 With Students
- 7.45 Folklore
- 8.15 Souk Al Ghaz: "Al Dooda'a", featuring Mohammed Saeed, Zuhair Numan, Zuhair Numan.
- 9.00 News to Arabic
- 9.50 Hada Al Rajul: Arabic serial, starring Noora, Salah Saadani, Khalid Zaki. Last episode.
- 10.50 Music Studio: variety show
- 12.00 News Summary / Magazine D'Actualite



Dale Robertson plays J.J. Starbuck, 8.40 pm on KTV 2.

tualite / Holy Quran / Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Adventures of Gummi Bears: Cartoons
- 6.30 Tunes of the World: "Black Souls"

- 7.30 Growing Pains: "Thank You, Willie Nelson". Jason faces family opposition when he decides to sell his house.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 J.J. Starbuck: "Incident ...". A hostage drama unfolds when a man threatens to kill all hostages.
- 9.30 Wildlife on Ooe: a look at aots
- 10.00 Sledge Hammer: Trigger happy Hammer is out on a new adventure with partner Drew
- 10.30 Private Eye: in tonight's episode, the detective helps police to bust a gang
- 11.30 News Summary
- 11.35 Magazine D'Actualite / Holy Quran / Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

English

- Morning
- 0800 Opening
- 0805 Songs and Music
- 0805 Writers and Poets in Arabic Literature
- 0830 News
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Golden Collections
- 0930 Album Tracks
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1030 Music With a Theme
- 1100 Closedown
- 1330 News on FM Service

BBC World Services

- 0800 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 10 Radio News
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Talk/Story (ex 1st Time for Verse; 22nd The A-Z of Hollywood; 29th Country Style)
- 25 (1st only) A Letter from Wales
- 30 Meridian
- 1200 Radio News
- 1300 World News
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88 (ex 22nd and 29th Sportsweek)
- 45 (22nd and 29th) Development '88
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 Report on Religion (ex 1st Outlook Contd.; 15th Sportsweek)
- 1500 Radio News
- 15 The Politics of Laughter (ex

Urdu

- 1st Education Today
- 30 King Street Junior (ex 22nd Radio Active; 29th Two Cheers for June)
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain (ex 1st Commentary)
- 15 Counterpoint (ex 22nd and 29th Sportsweek)
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary (ex 1st A Letter from Wales)
- 15 Society Today (ex 15th Sportsweek)
- 30 New Ideas (ex 15th Sportsweek)
- 40 Book Choices (ex 15th Sportsweek)
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsweek
- 30 Multitrack 2

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 French Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Be Our Guest
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Famous Classical Works
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Bacterium Qul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1925 Press Report
- 1940 Subha-e-Nau
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Hidayat-e-Rabbani
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Jahra Pharmacy
Fahad Al Salem St.
Loola Pharmacy
Dasman Complex,
Ahmad Al Jaber St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Zena Pharmacy
Ibn Khaldoun St.

Salmiya and Rumeithiya
Al Quds Pharmacy
Amman St.

Fahad and Ahmadi
Adel Pharmacy
Awadi Bldg., Fheel

Farwaniya
Al Munawar Pharmacy
South Souk St.

Jahra
Al Jahra Pharmacy
New Souk

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Last Shark
Starring: James Francisco, Vicki Moro

Al Salmiya
Flashpoint
Starring: Kris Kristofferson, Kevin

Al Hamra
Labyrinth
Starring: Jim Haosoo, George Luke

Drive-In
Al Jad'at Talatha (Arabic)
Starring: Samir Ghanem, Roya Al Katib

Al Firdous
Kasam (Hindi)
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Poonam Dhillon

Al Fahad
Hikayat Nus Millioo Dollar (Arabic)

Fahad Open-Air
Sausar (Hindi)
Al Jahra
Deer Hunter
Granada
Ya Sadiqi Kam Tasawi (Arabic)
Salabikhat
Bhoomiyile Rajakannam (Malayalam)
Al Jeeb
Killer Fish
Ahmadi Drive-In
Qaher Al Fursan (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.15 am
Zuhr	11.46
Asr	3.26 pm
Maghreb	6.43
Isha	8.14



Tunis Air recently resumed its weekly flights to Kuwait. The Sheraton Hotel has been chosen to accommodate Tunis Air crew. Above: Tunis Air Regional Manager Abdul Aziz Ben Sghaier is seen with the airline crew and the Sheraton staff look on as the captain prepares to cut the cake.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THE time to stop a revolution is at the beginning, not the end — Adlai Stevenson, US statesman-politician (1900-1965).

OAU still uncertain over its mission

By Jonathan Wright

ADDIS ABABA. (Reuters): A quarter century after its birth, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) is still uncertain over its mission: Is it a club for African leaders or should it pursue the original ideal of a United States of Africa?

At silver jubilee celebrations in Addis Ababa last week, heads of state and OAU officials harked back to the heady days of 1963, when independent Africa's founding fathers portrayed the OAU as the vehicle for the political integration of the continent.

But by their actions they reinforced the view that it should pursue the more modest aim of helping to draft common African positions on specific problems to the continent's dealings with the outside world.

With 50 member states, ranging from Marxist single-party states to Western-style pluralist societies, from impoverished desert states like Chad to rapidly industrialising economies like Mauritius, the OAU has had trouble finding anything in common except opposition to apartheid and a desire for more development assistance.

At the Addis Ababa celebrations, president after president deplored a lack of commitment by member states to the struggle against South Africa's apartheid system of race discrimination.

"It is embarrassing as well as disheartening that... some fellow African states are being lured into contrived friendship or subtle collaboration with the Pretoria regime," said Ibrahim Babangida of Nigeria.

"So many times we have taken decision here, only to be divided in other gatherings," added Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, the outgoing chairman of the organisation.

Former President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, who signed the OAU charter in 1963 but missed the 25th anniversary celebrations, said in an interview that over the years he had noticed a gradual erosion of the pan-African ideal as new African states concentrated on moulding their countries into nations.

"What I see now is the strengthening of nationalism. We are engrossed in building nation states... I don't know whether the new generation of African leaders now have Africa very much in mind," he said.

Despite the expressions of good intentions by member states, the OAU itself has been largely powerless to move the organisation in any direction.

Law comes under pressure in Kenya

By Philip Williams

NAIROBI. (UPI): A man who gnawed out his wife's eyes because she presented him with five girls and no boys got five years' jail. So did a man found with a leaflet denouncing President Daniel Arap Moi.

Two men convicted of smuggling heroin into Kenya got 12 months each. So did a man who stole a mango.

Such is the confusion, chaos, political interference, thuggery and corruption of Kenya's legal system that lawyers in the East African country fear the rule of law itself is in danger of collapse. "That is what has marked out this country as a place where it is bearable to live. Without respect for the rule of law, there is no liberty," said one senior lawyer in Nairobi.

"It is my belief, and that of many of my colleagues both black and white, that the government is undermining the very basis on which Kenya has flourished and distinguished itself from its less fortunate neighbours."

Legal sources in the Kenyan capital — who declined to be named for fear of reprisals — trace the current crisis to the beginning of Moi's presidency.

Supreme

Moi put into words last year what every Kenyan already knew in practice — despite the Westminster-style constitution and Kenya's links to the West — that his Kenya African National Union, Kenya's sole political grouping, was "supreme" even over the high court and parliament.

A year earlier, he ordered a

Short of cash, unable to enforce its own resolutions and limited by a statutory exclusion of interference in the internal affairs of member states, it has had to settle for the lowest common denominator of agreement, diplomats say.

Arrangements to the organisation's budget amount to millions of dollars, some dating back more than a decade, but OAU officials dare not name names and the members have never reached a consensus on applying an article which would strip defaulters of their voting rights.

The fear of naming names is so pervasive that at a news conference on Friday OAU officials tried to dissuade a lawyer from saying which countries had failed to ratify an OAU charter on human rights. The names of the countries are freely available.

Protesting

A Mauritian walkout at the closing session of the OAU summit on Saturday underlined the same problem. The Indian Ocean island was protesting at a report which accused it and two other states of collaborating with South Africa.

Internal conflicts, by far the most prevalent on the continent, are out of bounds for OAU debate, so the organisation has looked on helplessly as guerrilla wars rage in Uganda, northern Ethiopia or southern Sudan or as one tribe massacres another in the Central African state of Burundi.

On the dispute between Chad and Libya, an OAU Committee has spent more than 10 years trying to reconcile the rival claims to the Aouzou Strip. The chairman, Omar Bongo of Gabon, said that even if he presented one of his secret solutions, there was no guarantee they would be accepted.

Year after year proposals for a joint African defence force come up at OAU meetings, only to disappear when African foreign ministers examine them in detail. OAU Secretary-General Ide Oumarou has recommended an early meeting of the organisation's Defence Commission to speed up its preparations for setting up the force but no mention of the force appeared in the final resolutions.

President Samuel Doe of Liberia, asked what he thought of OAU summits, said the social aspect was important.

"African issues are not business. I think the OAU summit is not intended only to solve African problems. It is also an opportunity to get together as a family," he said in an interview with the magazine Africa Now.

crackdown on the little-known leftwing "Mwakanya" group calling for his overthrow that exposed the fragility of the Kenyan legal system and the routine brutality of the police.

About 70 people were accused of sedition — reading or possessing Mwakanya pamphlets or even knowing that others had done so — and were sentenced to between 18 months and seven years.

Some were accused of being Mwakanya members but most of the cases had one thing in common: the defendants pleaded guilty under police duress. Suspects who would not were simply denied a court appearance and detained, including one prominent Nairobi lawyer who tried to defend the accused properly.

Torture

Many were denied legal representation. Cases were often heard quickly in lunch recesses to frustrate defence lawyers and journalists and most were dealt with by the then chief magistrate HH Buch.

Buch never inquired why many defendants were injured or unrepresented.

Worse, it became obvious police torture and beatings were systematic. Lawyers, defendants and ordinary Kenyans now say beatings are routine in even the most trivial, non-political cases.

"The system is riddled with corruption to the highest levels," said one attorney. "It has really peaked over the last 18 months."

When Buch was overlooked in recent appointments to the high court, he resigned in anger, embarrassing chief justice Cecil Miller.

By Charlotte Salikowski

WASHINGTON: The Soviets may be pulling their troops out of Afghanistan — but they are not retreating from long-term efforts to be a weighty player on the world stage.

Their style is changing, however.

The signing in Geneva of the United Nations-sponsored accord on the evacuation of Soviet forces from Afghanistan, including an agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union guaranteeing the Afghan peace settlement, is symbolic of significant changes taking place in diplomatic strategy under Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

"Every place they are activated they may be shifting away from arms supply to a raz-de-jaillie political approach," a senior US administration official says. "They see themselves as a world power with the right to be involved and they see their interests in not wanting us to be the sole player."

Diplomatic observers point to the more nimble, flexible, and innovative approach adopted by General-Secretary Gorbachev. Even on the eve of the signing of the Afghan accords, which represent a strategic defeat for Moscow, the Soviets have covered their embarrassing retreat by focusing on another issue: Gorbachev has called on Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to recognise Israel's right to exist in a move to spur peace in the Middle East.

This has echoes of President Nixon trying to disengage from Vietnam and using his opening to China to eclipse the US withdrawal from an unpopular war.

Diplomacy

The new realism in Soviet diplomacy can be seen in many parts of the world. First and foremost, the Soviets are moderating their competition with the US and putting relations on a less confrontational footing. The Afghan settlement serves this purpose.

In the Middle East, the Soviets have adopted a more moderate posture, withholding their fire on American efforts to rekindle a peace process on negotiations over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They are also participating in UN efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war, although they are ambivalent on the issue of an international arms embargo.

In Angola, Moscow appears to have urged Cuba to be more flexible in negotiations concerning a time frame for withdrawing some 20,000 Cuban troops. Cuba has agreed in principle to a total pullout.

In Central America, US officials believe the Soviets have a hand in pressing Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega to talk directly with the Contras.

In Cambodia, Moscow is encouraging a resolution of the war and a withdrawal of Vietnamese forces.

The Soviets have adopted a more responsible attitude toward world organisations:

Despite pullout from Afghanistan

Moscow remains weighty player on world stage

They are paying their UN dues and expressing an interest in such bodies as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Diplomatic analysts see Moscow now playing to the more moderate powers — courting Israel and Nigeria, for instance, instead of countries like Ethiopia and Angola. The Soviets are also improving ties with Mexico and Argentina rather than committing to new Grenadas.

Gorbachev and his reformist supporters are seen to be motivated by a desire to stabilise the international scene as the Soviet Union grapples with its immense economic problems.

"The Soviets want greater stability in the world that does not call on them to take new risks and incur new costs," says Raymond Garthoff, an expert at the Brookings Institution. "They have not given up on the world. They will seek to develop their influence in political and economic ways. But if they find they cannot do that well, they will not

necessarily decide that proxy military action is the way to go. Moreover, as the Soviets look out on the world and see such nations as China and Brazil becoming world-class players, analysts say, they cannot afford to just sit on their hands.

What does all this mean for the West?

Domination

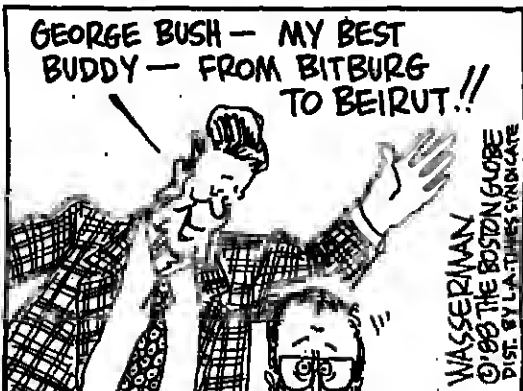
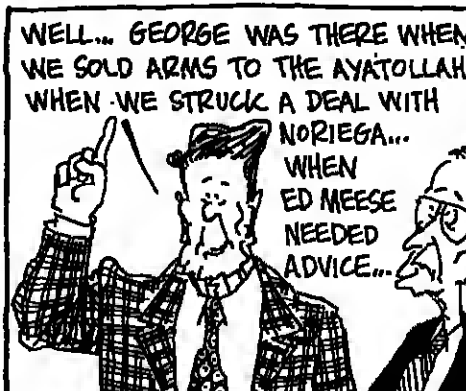
Amid the new flourishes in Soviet diplomatic activity, conservatives in the US warn that Moscow has not changed its fundamental colouration. It is still bent on world domination and continues to represent the biggest threat to the security of the US and its allies. Conservatives are uncomfortable with the Reagan administration's accommodation with the Soviet Union and efforts to reach an agreement on reducing strategic nuclear arms.

But American policymakers say the US, even while staying alert to the Soviet capacity for aggression, must welcome the

changes in Soviet domestic and foreign policy. "We cannot just scoff at these people and say 'don't be taken in by the dance,'" a senior US official says. "We have to adopt the posture that we're glad they're joining in the 20th century and then see how our interests are affected. It's not the new dance but the end result that must concern us."

In Afghanistan, the Soviets are voluntarily leaving invaded territory for the first time since the Red Army withdrew from Australia in 1955. The US supplied the Afghan mujahideen rebels with arms, preventing the Soviets from pacifying the country. But, analysts say, the primary reasons for withdrawal is Gorbachev's recognition that the Soviets badly misjudged the situation when they invaded Afghanistan in 1979 and his willingness to reverse course, however painful. The UN accords provided him a face-saving way out.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



Reagan and Gorbachev

By Patrick Worsnip

MOSCOW. (Reuters): Over four summits, US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev have got too close for comfort, but their personal relations seem to reflect the hard realities of politics, not dictate them.

"I don't think it's friendship, maybe it's more mutual understanding," Soviet government spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said of what Westerners call the "chemistry" between the world's two most powerful leaders.

Reagan and Gorbachev share some personal traits, including an easy, informal style that clearly acts as a quick ice-breaker in their meetings.

"There is a kind of personal trust developed between the two leaders which is good for the negotiations," Gerasimov said in a television interview.

Achievements Despite years of frigid relations and Reagan's reputation as a virulent anti-communist, the Geneva summit of 1985 set a new tone, with the two men holding hours of private talks, strolling in the garden of a lakeside villa, and chatting and joking in public.

Though short on concrete achievements, that summit marked the beginning of a dramatic upturn in superpower

Friends in need or friends indeed

ties as the pace of arms talks accelerated and the recently appointed Gorbachev staked out a new Kremlin foreign policy.

But a year later in Reykjavik, the temporary collapse of arms negotiations was written all over the leaders' faces as they curiously took leave of each other with a brief handshake, and later blamed each other for the failure of the talks.

In Washington last December, it was all smiles again as Reagan and Gorbachev signed an historic treaty banning medium-range missiles.

In what was seen as an important symbolic step, officials disclosed that the two leaders had agreed to call each other "Ron" and "Mikhail," instead of the formal "Mr President" and "Mr General-Secretary."

The present summit has had a controversial build-up with Reagan delivering a series of fiery speeches, the latest in Helsinki last Friday, calling on Moscow to improve its human rights record.

Gorbachev and other Soviet officials have indignantly rejected the calls as unfair and patronising.

Once in Moscow, Reagan appeared much milder, deflecting reporters' questions about human rights and denying he was trying to lecture the Russians on the subject.

Some US officials say Reagan, who once said he would like to take Gorbachev to his ranch in California and show him "how a capitalist lives," believes he can change the Soviet leader's ideas by the sheer force of his personality.

But some people fear the opposite could happen.

Many West European officials worry that one day, in an orgy of hooliganism, Reagan might sign away all the world's ballistic missiles, and with them the entire Western strategy of nuclear deterrence, something they believe nearly happened at Reykjavik.

Some US conservatives think former President Jimmy Carter was lulled into a false sense of intimacy with then Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, which led to misunderstandings and a feeling of betrayal when Soviet troops went into Afghanistan.

By Michael Posner

WASHINGTON. (Reuters): While President Reagan commands the world stage at the Moscow summit, Vice-President George Bush is closeted thousands of miles away, a surprising underdog in his bid for the presidency.

At a time a prosperous economy should be propelling him to the White House, Bush trails likely general election rival Democrat Michael Dukakis by at least 10 percentage points in several recent polls.

With the United States enjoying both peace and prosperity, conventional wisdom suggests that the candidate of the incumbent party should be favoured in the November election.

But Bush, who has wrapped up the Republican presidential nomination, has been hurt by a series of problems surrounding the White House including the failure of US efforts to oust Panamanian leader Manuel Antonio Noriega and the continued questioning of Attorney General Edwin Meese's ethical conduct.

"What's happening is a total accumulation of unfavourable developments," says political scientist George Reedy, former press secretary to President Lyndon Johnson.

But Bush has already set his sights on Dukakis, belittling the governor's claim to have produced a "Massachusetts

Bush struggling as an underdog

foreign policy experience. Recently, Bush has been trying to emerge from Reagan's shadow and set out a presidential agenda of his own.

Bush suggested he opposed further talks with Noriega, who was indicted in Florida on drug-trafficking charges. He said that as president he would not talk with drug dealers.

He vowed a stepped up effort to protect the environment including action against acid rain. Reagan has resisted all efforts against acid rain, preferring to "study" the issue.

And last week Bush outlined a tough anti-drug programme, far more sweeping than current administration efforts, in a bid to capitalise on growing public anxiety about drugs.

But his troubles mounted when his longtime aide Pete Teelney quit as chief spokesman, complaining he had been cut out of key decisions.

Growth

Bush professes to relish the underdog role, saying it will give him a chance to attack Dukakis, the fighting back. He is the favourite, Bush told reporters.

In fact, Bush has already set his sights on Dukakis, belittling the governor's claim to have produced a "Massachusetts

miracle" of economic growth in his home state.

"Massachusetts is the 12th largest state and it receives the fifth largest share of defence," Bush told reporters while campaigning in New Jersey. "There is no question Massachusetts has benefited from the defence buildup."

And in a speech at the US Military Academy, Bush painted Dukakis as a naive liberal, who would unwittingly weaken America's security by cutting defence spending.

Bush says his rival's standing in the polls has been inflated by favourable publicity from a string of easy primary victories over his lone Democratic nomination rival, civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

Conservative

"It's quite different in attracting all that important first 60 seconds in the news," Bush said. Bush also says Dukakis is temporarily benefitting from Americans' unfamiliarity with what he calls the Massachusetts governor's ultra-liberal views.

"When (a) poll says that two-thirds of the people think Dukakis is more conservative than I am — I say, what's going on out there," Bush told reporters recently. "Nobody will ever allege that in November."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1524 — Peasants' revolt in southern Germany begins.
- 1562 — Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand I and Sultan of Turkey, Suleiman I, sign truce.
- 1664 — War breaks out between England and Holland in the colonies and at sea.
- 1671 — Turkey declares war on Poland.
- 1695 — Polish army scores impressive victory over the tartars.
- 1733 — St Croix (Santa Cruz) in West Indies comes under Danish control.
- 1857 — Britain's Royal Navy destroys Chinese fleet in China Sea.
- 1869 — New Spanish constitution is promulgated, continuing the monarchy.
- 1883 — France launches war against Madagascar.
- 1952 — United National Party under Dudley Senanayake wins Ceylon elections.
- 1973 — Greece's premier George Papadopoulos abolishes Greek monarchy.
- 1975 — Police in white-ruled African nation of Rhodesia kill 11 blacks in clash with rioters in Salisbury.
- 1976 — Syrian force, estimated at 4,000 troops and 200 tanks, invades Lebanon and captures Christian and Muslim positions as it advances on Beirut to attempt to halt 14-month civil war.
- 1987 — Lebanon's Prime Minister Rashid Karami is killed when time bomb planted to attack case explodes in his lap aboard helicopter.

Political turmoil has no effect on Panama Canal operations

By Clara Germani

PANAMA CITY: The Panama Canal theoretically is a swath of neutrality cutting through the Central American jungle.

And so far, the political and economic turmoil here hasn't interrupted the 24-hour-a-day stream of ships squeezing from ocean to ocean through the canal locks.

But because of the canal's importance to both Panama and the United States — its strategic value for the latter and sovereignty and economic value for the former — it has been drawn into the political currents.

"It seems to me we've been thrust right into the political (arena)," William Gianelli, chairman of the board of directors of the Panama Canal Commission, says.

Over Gianelli's objections, the commission's US-Panamanian board had to suspend a quarterly meeting. President-in-hiding Eric Arturo Delvalle, the de facto Panamanian government of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega and the US State Department were all against the meeting, says Gianelli, because they didn't want to appear to be cooperating

with each other. "I thought we should go ahead (with the meeting). We've got a lot of nervous people down there. We've got ships that show up there everyday... We're trying to conduct the business of the canal apart from politics," says Gianelli.

Affecting

But the tense political situation is affecting the canal. For example:

● Panamanian troops harass canal employees, largely pro-US.

● Under sanctions against General Noriega, the US is withholding millions of dollars of canal revenues owed to Panama.

● A trilateral, US-Panama-Japan, commission to study future alternatives to the canal has been brought to a standstill. Because of the difficulties between the US and Panamanian governments, the members cannot carry on business with one another.

● The canal area, already bristling with 10,000 permanently based US soldiers, received 1,300 new troops in April as a show of US force.

● Some of the more extreme elements of the political opposition to Noriega argue that the

best pretext for bringing US troops in to oust Noriega would be to involve the canal in some way, because it is the primary US strategic interest here.

● Noriega claims two US drug indictments against him and the economic sanctions are a thinly veiled US manoeuvre to reverse the Panama Canal Treaty of 1977. His nationalist rhetoric suggests he might put the canal's future operation and defence in military hands rather than the civilian administration envisioned by treaty negotiators.

Concerns

The current crisis raises short — and long-term concerns about Panama's reliability as owner of the 50-mile engineering marvel vital to world trade, political aid trade analysts say.

Canal administrators already had doubts about Panama's ability to run the canal efficiently when the US cedes it to them in the year 2000. Now the political situation compounds those concerns, observers say.

The canal is at the geographic and economic heart of Panama. As a US possession, it has been the source of resentment for those who would prefer more

Panamanian self-determination. When the treaty was signed, it was seen as a way to defuse the antagonism and foster a more democratic state. The treaty puts no qualifications for what kind of government can inherit the canal in 2000.

"The theory of the treaty is based on the fact that it would always be in Panama's national interest to run the canal well," says Ambler Moss, who was US ambassador to Panama during the negotiation of the canal treaties during the late 1970s.

But canal officials are now concerned about the effect the image of political instability will have on business.

"With a lot of cargo we have a choice between air and ocean. But with the problems in Panama we'd steer our customers toward air (just because of the concern) ... the vessels might divert if the canal closed at the last minute," says John Matusek, a Miami freight forwarder.

This is just the reaction canal administrators are worried about.

No one is concerned about the availability of qualified Panamanian technicians to run the canal, canal administrators say.

Already, 83 per cent of the work force is Panamanian — and the US-Panamaoiaio partnership provides that in 1990 canal management will be headed by a Panamanian.

The question is whether Panama's government will allow the canal to be run efficiently by professionals, or whether it will politicise it and open the door to public sector corruption.

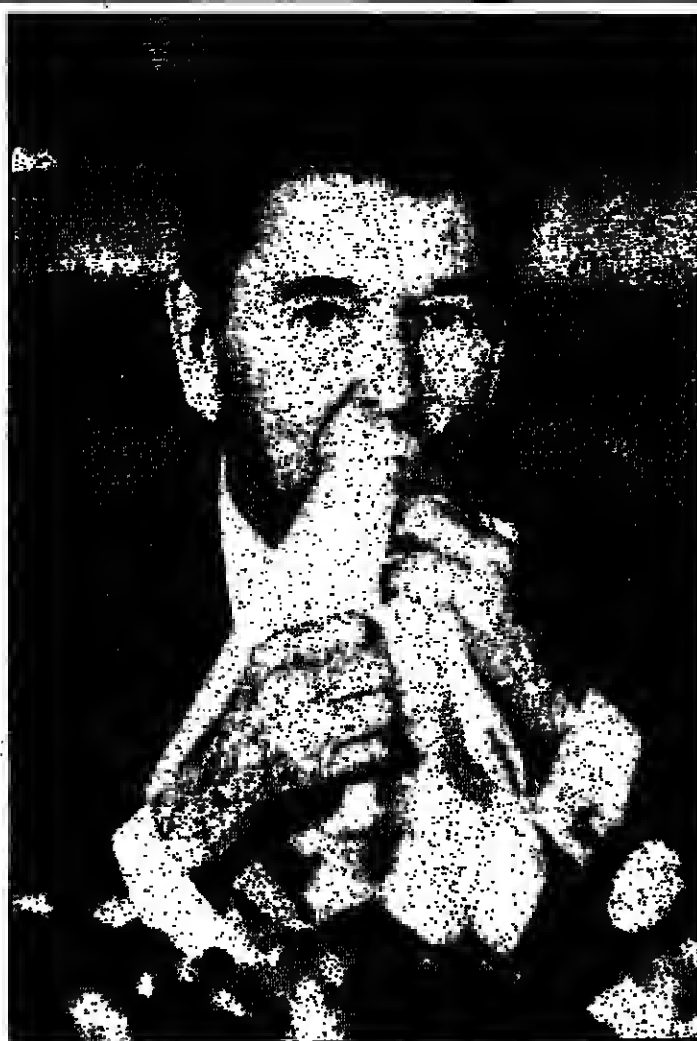
Returned

The trans-isthmus railroad, the Atlantic and Pacific ports, and many former Canal Zone properties were immediately returned to Panama under the 1979 treaties. Since then, political patronage has ballooned the railroad payroll to triple its original size. Service deteriorated until safety became so bad that the US no longer contracts at all with the railroad. Port fees rose to levels among the highest in the world and strikes have closed the ports at times.

"All areas that reverted (to Panama under the treaties) are a mess... no question about that," says Carlos Lopez Guevarra, a treaty negotiator and former Panamanian ambassador to the US.

"On the positive side, we say while a risk may be there where the canal is caught up in some way in political environment, we've had nine months of political unrest and nothing has interfered with the operations of the canal," he says.

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.



THE SUMMIT: (Clockwise from left) **NANCY REAGAN** enjoys herself in front of the 'Samson and the Lion' fountain after throwing Soviet coins into the fountain and making a wish during her day-long visit here yesterday. President Reagan wipes his chin at a luncheon for Soviet writers at the Alexander Feddayev Central House of Writers. During a walk in Cathedral Square in the Kremlin, President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev were surrounded by a huge entourage of security, aides and press after talks yesterday. Reagan has between 800 and 800 people in his delegation alone, including nearly 300 journalists. Gorbachev's private Kremlin office was the venue yesterday for the third meeting of their Moscow summit. (Reuter wirephotos)



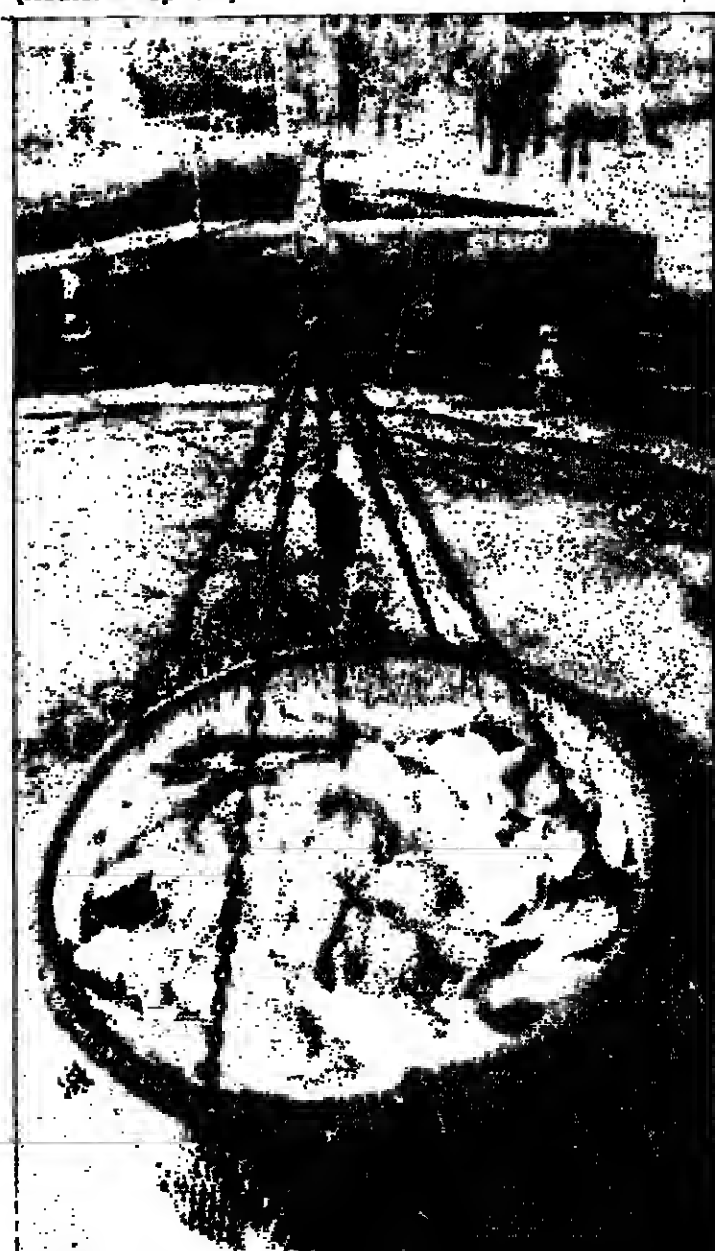
JEWISH demonstrators, refused permission to leave the Soviet Union, chant at the Lenin library. The demonstration ended peacefully after requests from police to break it up. (Reuter wirephoto)



SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC, 47, party leader of Yugoslavia's republic of Serbia, at the crisis conference of the Yugoslav Communist Party. (Reuter wirephoto)



QUEEN Noor Al Hussein of Jordan meets Lucy Fletcher, 14, from Lincolnshire, England, at a London hotel yesterday. They were attending the 'Gift of Sight' luncheon given by The Order of St John to raise funds for the St John Ophthalmic Hospital in Jerusalem. Lucy had her eyesight saved by Sir Stephen Miller (centre) and now devotes her spare time to raising money to continue its work in the Middle East. (Reuter wirephoto)



DEAD fish were hauled up at a fish farm near Hidra, Norway, yesterday. A belt of killer algae has choked to death rich marine life off southern Scandinavia and has moved further north, threatening more fish farms. (Reuter wirephoto)



VIETNAM Marine Corps veteran, Berni Kean, 40, sheds tears for his friends who lost their lives in the Vietnam War, during a Memorial Day Service at the Marietta National Military Cemetery in Georgia on Monday. (Reuter wirephoto)



FORMER Prime Minister and leader of the Gaullist party, Jacques Chirac, campaigning yesterday morning in Paris streets for next month's general election. (Reuter wirephoto)

By Kathy Cuddihy

HUSBANDS sometimes do the strangest things under the guise of love and consideration. In my spouse's most recent display of devotion, he signed me up for a tennis tournament without consulting me first. Not just a friendly game, but a full-fledged tournament, for goodness' sake.

"Only masochists play tennis in this heat," I argued.

"Tennis players play tennis in this heat, Kathy. You've got to get away from your desk sometimes. Get out and have fun."

"I'm all for getting away from my desk and I'm all for having fun. It's dying of heat exhaustion on the tennis court that just doesn't have a strong appeal."

"Get involved, Kathy. You'll love it."

The maddening thing was, I think he really believed himself. What's more, he volunteered to be my partner in the mixed doubles match.

"That's actually very generous of you," I admitted with no small amount of awe. "Not only are you a better player than I am, but husbands don't usually get on well with wives when they play on the same team. What can I say? Of course, I'll play with you, darling."

Those were the last kind words I spoke to my husband until after the tournament. What is it about competition that turns perfectly nice men into spiteful soreheads?

Our team spirit showed visible signs of disintegration when I lost my serve.

"Tsk, tsk, Kathy. No tennis player worth his salt double faults. Don't try to be fancy. Just get the ball over the net and into the little box." He smiled when he said it but the words hung in the air like a pregnant hippo.

Game, set ... mismatch



Now that good sportsmanship was out of the way, he felt free to ram a few tennis tips down my throat. "Try to keep your eye on the ball, dear" soon deteriorated to "For heaven's sake, Kathy, are you looking through those glasses of yours, or not?"

When he told me to get a racket without holes in it next time, I'd had enough. You want to see me play, I thought? OK, huster, I'll play. I got ready to serve the serve of all serves. Bingo! A perfect shot.

"Geez, Kathy, watch what you're doing. That hit me right in the ear!"

"Oh, I'm so sorry, darling. I'll try to do better the next time." I'll hit you in the other ear, you creep, just to show you I'm ambidextrous.

Even when I played well I played "incorrectly" since my partner would accuse me of "poaching" ... despite the fact that my efforts won us valuable points. But perhaps I should look more closely at what drove him to such stinging comments. Could it be because every time he authoritatively shouted "I've got it!" he shot the ball into the net?

"Do what I say, not what I do," became an evident policy of my husband.

"Run, Kathy" was a command obviously reserved for my husband's partner and not applicable to himself.

"Good grief, dear, how could you possibly miss a shot like that? The ball came right to you!" I decided to lower myself and

make a few astute remarks. "That was a very tricky shot. I honestly don't think anyone could have got it," came his hot reply.

"Most players worth their salt would have raised their rackets in a brave attempt, though." "I certainly hope I made my point with my partner because we sure weren't doing too well on game points."

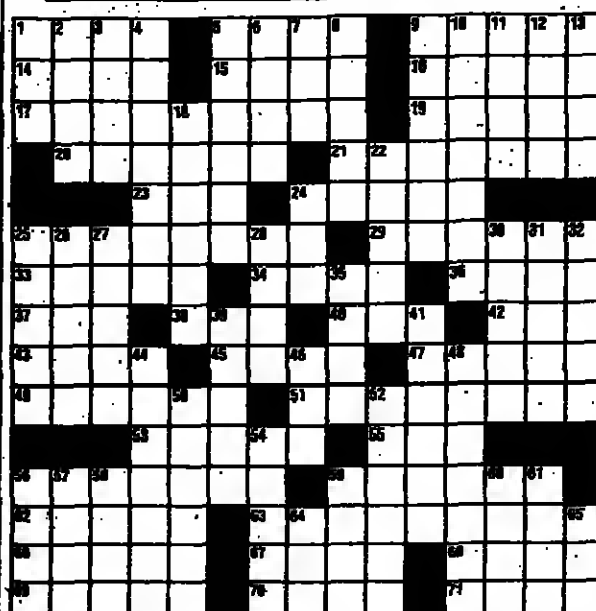
It was my turn to serve again and by now I was angry enough to give the opposition a few vicious shots. Whishh!! Somehow I managed a classic bullet serve that neatly skimmed the top of the net. We won the point. I wasn't the only surprised person. Before my husband could control his astonishment, he involuntarily muttered "Fantastic serve."

"PARDON?" Who cares about tennis etiquette? I might never hear a word of praise again from this man. As a matter of fact, we might never speak to each other after this.

Much as my husband hated to admit it, my serve won us the game. We won the next game, too, because I had some terrific net shots. I just let pass my husband's remark that his tennis had suddenly gone "off." Funny how his faults are momentary lapses and mine are permanent disabilities.

We lost the match but fortunately that was all we lost. Afterwards my husband came up to me and apologized for his bad attitude on the court. "You played some fantastic tennis, Kathy. I'm proud to have you for my partner." My husband really is a nice guy. Maybe next time I'll just clip him in the kidney instead of aiming for his ear.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Hair treatment, for short
 - 14 Veritable
 - 15 Drug dick
 - 16 Discourse: Comb. form
 - 17 Its airport code is AMS
 - 19 Presses
 - 20 Scarlett's true love
 - 21 Ushers
 - 23 Pinder opus
 - 24 Quaking tree
 - 25 Its airport code is DEL
 - 26 Stars legally
 - 33 Collect
 - 34 Major or Minor
 - 36 City on the Oka
 - 37 2001
 - 38 Antiknock agent: Abbr.
 - 40 Grampus
 - 42 Indonesian Islands
 - 43 Ago
 - 45 River between China and Korea
 - 47 Scandinavian sea god
 - 49 Air
 - 51 Its airport code is BRU
 - 53 Is in the vanguard
 - 55 Jack Frost's
- DOWN**
- 1 School org.
 - 2 Writer: Bombardier
 - 3 Memorable singer Columbo
 - 4 Modes
 - 5 Present
 - 6 "Be Good"
 - 7 Blue Eagle org.
 - 8 Tops
 - 9 Carves
 - 10 Its airport code is YYZ
 - 11 Operatic prince
 - 12 Fontaine's spouse
 - 13 Minus
 - 18 Firstborn
 - 22 Opera super's prop
 - 24 Tune
 - 25 Boies's neighbor
 - 26 Post Lazarus and namesakes
 - 27 Place for a belt
 - 28 Island dance
 - 30 Storm, to Simone
 - 31 Danger
 - 32 Insults
 - 35 Sullen
 - 39 Talking bird
 - 41 Gaming establishment
 - 44 Its airport code is TLV
 - 46 Pounds, for short
 - 48 Taka up and support
 - 50 Ebb
 - 52 Not qualified
 - 54 Devil
 - 56 Paris green spot
 - 57 Chinese gelatin
 - 58 Wine valley in California
 - 59 MacMillan, for one
 - 60 Notable times
 - 61 Use shears
 - 64 Upon: Prefix
 - 65 English cathedral city

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

NINE 'ALMOST' NEVER

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 5 3
 ♥ 7 4
 ♦ A 8 5
 ♣ A K Q J 9 6

WEST
 ♠ K J 10 6
 ♥ 3
 ♦ Q J 9 7
 ♣ 10 8 4 2

EAST
 ♠ A Q 7 2
 ♥ Q 9 8
 ♦ K 10 6 4 2
 ♣ 5

SOUTH
 ♠ 9 8 4
 ♥ A K J 10 6 5 2
 ♦ 3
 ♣ 7 3

The bidding:

South West North East

4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

It is all very well to know the basic percentages of the game. However, all of them have to be considered in relation to the play of any hand as a whole, where the main goal is to make or break the contract. For instance, consider that old bromide: "Eight ever, nine never." It's an accurate enough summary of the probability of playing a suit, providing that's your only concern.

In light of the vulnerability, we just give the nod to South's decision to preempt with four hearts. However, since the opponents could make at most eight tricks at a spade contract barring gifts from the defense, declarer had to bring home his contract to show any profit from

his decision in the auction. West led the top of his broken diamond sequence. Declarer won the ace and, in keeping with the odds, cashed the ace-king of trumps. Unfortunately, the queen did not drop. Declarer tried to recover by running clubs, but East ruffed the second club and shifted to a spade, and the defenders took three tricks in that suit to administer a one-trick set.

More important than just drawing trumps was to do so safely. Since declarer could afford to lose two spade tricks and a trump, he could have protected against the possibility of a 3-1 trump split.

At trick two, declarer should have led a trump from dummy and finessed the ten. At worst, that would have lost to the queen. The most the defenders then can do is to cash two spades. Thereafter, declarer can win any return, draw trumps, and take a discard, if necessary, on dummy's clubs. As the cards lie, the finesse succeeds and West follows suit, so declarer simply draws the last two trumps and claims all the tricks. Sometimes justice is done!



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ROMP SIDES BARRA
 ERLE EVITA OVAL
 VIANESSAREOGRAYE
 ELEPHANT RISES
 EMIS APOC
 BEST OF AROW CIT
 OWEN ADIEU ADE
 WERNERKLEMPERER
 LIRE LARAS SEAR
 ESS ATOI BOTTLE
 STEN MOA
 STELE AJRTIGHT
 OVIDEISENHOWER
 ARILO BRINE NERO
 KALE BASSO SNOW

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries (March 20 - April 18)</p> <p>You should try to ensure that you are not boring others. Do not allow yourself to succumb to strange ideas. Pay more attention to your personal life. Be considerate.</p>	<p>Cancer (June 21 - July 21)</p> <p>You should not allow yourself to be dominated by negative considerations. You should have the courage of your convictions. Make sure you do not live in the past. Be a little more tolerant.</p>	<p>Libra (Sep. 22 - Oct. 22)</p> <p>You will not know quite what to do and it would be best to wait just a little longer. Help with your problems will come to you from an unexpected direction. You will have something to be really pleased about. Be more moderate.</p>	<p>Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)</p> <p>The Moon's better influence will help you to understand what is on other people's mind. You should not make any promises you do not intend to keep.</p>
<p>Taurus (April 19 - May 19)</p> <p>You will be a little more approachable. Try to stick to what is strictly practical and affordable. Do not try to use force and accept what cannot be changed. Be a little more optimistic.</p>	<p>Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)</p> <p>You should not be afraid of criticism and should try to change in its light. A good idea will help you to deal with an unusual situation. You will be able to overcome what seemed like a formidable obstacle. Be kind-hearted.</p>	<p>Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)</p> <p>You will find it easier to get on with others. You should not try to evade the responsibility for something you have done. You will be able to avail yourself of a good opportunity. Be constructive.</p>	<p>Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)</p> <p>Mercury's influence will help you to make the right decision. You will have to deal with a person who is bringing something of a nuisance. If you try to hide from the truth you will not succeed. Be fair!</p>
<p>Gemini (May 20 - June 20)</p> <p>You should not allow your animosities and resentments to get the upper hand. Instead try to overcome them. Do not try to dictate to others. Be benevolent.</p>	<p>Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)</p> <p>The general prospects are good but you must still tread warily. You have good reason to have a little more faith in yourself. You should not try to escape from reality and should face up to the truth. Be sensible.</p>	<p>Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)</p> <p>You should not lose sight of the wood for the trees. You will have a lot to do so do one thing at a time, and do not rush. A lot depends on your taking a middle road and not going to extremes. Be reliable.</p>	<p>Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)</p> <p>Today you will be able to get a lot do but you must not rush. You should not do something without considering other people's opinions. There is no due to waste. Be magnanimous.</p>

Mickey Mouse: sixty years on

By Jane Sutton

MIAMI, (UPI): Mickey Mouse turns 60 this year and his extraordinary popularity still baffles the veteran artist who helped sketch him to life during the golden days of Disney animation.

"There's something about Mickey you can't really explain at all," said Frank Thomas, 75, who began drawing Mickey for Walt Disney in 1935. "I think there's something mystic in the design."

"There's a completeness to it. Walt used to say you could show Mickey to kids in the crib and they'd respond to him."

Mickey made his debut in the 1928 cartoon 'Steamboat Willie', and was an instant success. Six decades later, technology has changed the way artists draw him, but his popularity has never waned.

"Everywhere we go, people are wearing Mickey shirts, Mickey watches, even people who don't know who Mickey is," said Otis Johnston, 75, who sketched Mickey occasionally, and later drew the star of the 'Brave Little Tailor' in 1933.

Thomas and Johnston met as art students at Stanford University, went to work for Disney shortly afterward and stayed there until they retired 10 years ago.

They drew Mickey, Pinocchio, Bambi and Cinderella's stepsisters during the studio's heyday.

Thomas and Johnston consider animators "actors with

pencils." They have published two books on animation techniques and still work as consultants for Disney.

"We've always had the same approach to our work. We were more interested in the acting, the emotion of the character," Thomas said.

"When you make the audience laugh or cry it's really a wonderful feeling," Johnston said.

"We think animation was the one art form of this century. You could make a drawing move and breathe. A lot of people didn't realise it really is fine drawing, but for a special purpose. There was some marvellous draftsmanship and marvellous animation, but they don't stand alone," said Johnston.

The early brand of Disney animation, born in the Great Depression, featured intricately drawn characters and background scenes. "Pinocchio," made in 1940, was the last full-length feature with that kind of rich detail, the artists said.

"You could never make Pinocchio that way today. It would cost you \$100 million now. It would be difficult to find the people today. We haven't used that type of animation for 30 years. There's no one to train them," Johnston said.

Computer-generated images have helped put back some of the background details and has taken some of the drudgery out of drawing each individual frame by hand, at the rate of 24 frames per second of film.



Sixty-year-old Mickey Mouse with friends Goofy and Donald Duck: an ink and gouache drawing from the Disney studios.

But the equipment is too expensive to be used widely and it lacks the human emotion that separates technical skill from art, the animators said.

Thomas and Johnston cited the chase scene through the clock in the recent Disney movie 'The Great Mouse Detective', as an example of what computers do well.

As the animated characters chased each other around and around inside the clock, the computer-aided background scenes showed the intricate gears meshing together and clicking forward step by step. At the same time, the characters turned and the perspective changed, showing the background from several different angles.

"It's something you'd never draw. It's too involved," said Thomas.

But the computer was used only for the background, not for Mickey or the other characters, they said.

Other technological advances such as television and slow-motion replay have also helped animators pursue their craft by helping them observe movement. Before the video age, they drew entirely from experience and memory.

The dinosaurs in the 'Rite of Spring' segment of the landmark cartoon 'Fantasia' posed a special problem, since none of the artists had ever seen one.

"Walt would say 'now don't go making cute little animals. Make it like they really were,'" Thomas said. "You'd start with the skeleton at the museum. You'd look at the bones, look at some lizards, try to see how they might have really moved."

"You'd flip the pages at you worked. It would look like an old dollar bill, wrinkled, sweat on it. Not many guys said, 'this is not a good drawing and threw it gently into the wastebasket. It was more like, 'grrr, grrr, grrr,' gnashing and wadding."

Film on Christ stirs Christian controversy

By Judy Farah

UNIVERSAL CITY, California (AP): Christian fundamentalists warn they will put up a fight if Jesus is depicted as an insipid man who lusts after Mary Magdalene in the film 'The Last Temptation of Christ.'

Universal Pictures, already fearing a religious backlash when it releases Martin Scorsese's movie, has hired a Christian marketing consultant, Tim Penland, to help ward off controversy. Penland advised on the films 'Chariots of Fire' and 'The Mission.'

of interest in this movie in the Christian community, and there's paranoia about what it contains," Penland said.

The film, billed as a look at the human side of Christ, was shot in Morocco last fall. It stars Willem Dafoe as Jesus, Barbara Hershey as Mary Magdalene and Harvey Keitel as Judas Iscariot.

The movie, due for release in September, is based on Greek author Nikos Kazantzakis' 1955 book, which was condemned as heresy by the Greek orthodox church.

In one scene in the book that troubles the Christian leaders, Satan tempts Jesus with lust for Mary Magdalene, the biblical

prostitute. In another, Jesus apparently ponders homosexuality.

"I don't see how a producer can stay true to the book and not come out with a movie that is offensive to the Christian community,"

"The book is shot through with contradictions of the scriptures," said the Rev. Don Wildmon, head of a group which monitors television shows and films that affect the American family.

"We're trying to head the movie off ... so it's not blasphemous," said Ted Baehr, editor of 'Movie Guide,' an Atlanta-based Christian new-

sletter that monitors all theatrical releases.

Only Scorsese, who is editing the film in New York, knows what is going to be in the final version, and "He doesn't talk to any press at all when he's editing, on any movie," said spokeswoman Marion Billings.

Scorsese, who directed Taxi Driver and Raging Bull, studied for the priesthood before becoming a filmmaker.

"This is a film that I've wanted to make for 15 years, both as a filmmaker and Christian," he said in a statement. "I'm making a deeply religious film which is an affirmation of faith and I ask everyone not to judge my film until they see it."

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Bid to promote economic ties between Kuwait and Yugoslavia

Lucrative proposals for joint venture projects in tourism

By Jadranka Porter

YUGOSLAVIA is poised to present to Kuwait 50 lucrative proposals for joint venture projects in tourism as part of a drive to boost the Yugoslav economy by attracting foreign investment for projects with a promise of high returns, according to the Yugoslav Deputy Minister of Tourism, Miroje Popovich.

Popovich, who was in Kuwait earlier this week, said the proposals would be forwarded after the legislation aimed at modernising the joint venture regulations is passed in four months time.

Proposals

The new law will guarantee the foreign investors' equity rights and will lift restrictions on invest-

Yugoslavia liberalises controls on foreign exchange and imports

BELGRADE, May 31 (Reuters): Yugoslavia lifted controls on foreign exchange and some imports on Monday as part of a new programme designed to combat the country's economic crisis.

The dinar was freed and the foreign exchange market left to function daily on the basis of supply and demand, official statements said. At the same time, controls were lifted on 40 per cent of imports.

The exchange rate liberalisation means Yugoslav firms will have easier access to foreign exchange and the dinar will find its value in a free market.

Dropped

Restrictions were dropped on the import of 200 types of consumer goods, including electrical appliances, cars and clothes, a government statement said.

The government hopes freer imports will force Yugoslav enterprises to be more competitive and promote capitalist prices.

The foreign exchange market was brought under control seven years ago during an economic crisis.

The economic programme launched at the weekend mixes curbs on wages, spending and money supply with a freeing of prices, imports and the exchange rate.

Prices of 60 per cent of goods on the Yugoslav market were freed on Saturday, ending a six-month-old freeze. Inflation at the end of April stood at 152 per cent.

Higher

The dinar was devalued on Friday night, making a basket of hard currencies 23 per cent higher against the Yugoslav unit. The dinar was listed at 1,919.86 to the dollar on Monday after being 1,554.19 dinars to the dollar on Friday.

Officials said the foreign exchange market was not hazy on the first day of its revival on Monday. Yugoslav banks had \$5.3 million for sale while demand was for 12.8 million, officials said. The gap was covered by the National Bank.

Sony unveils Video Walkman

TOKYO, May 31 (Reuters): One of the world's most innovative electronics companies, Sony, unveiled today the Video Walkman — a combination video recorder and television about the size of a fat paperback book.

The machine is equipped with a three-inch LCD (liquid crystal display) screen and an eight-mm video tape recorder which the company is still fighting to establish as the standard mini-video cassette format.

"We hope the Video Walkman will augur in a new video era," a company spokesman told a news conference.

Sony introduced the Audio Walkman in 1979 and has sold more than 35 million since, the spokesman said.

The 1.1 kg (2.4 pound) video/TV machine, designated the GV-8, will be sold in Japan for 128,000 yen (\$1,000) from August 21 and in the US and Canada by year-end, although prices have not been set.

Sales

Sales in Europe will follow. The spokesman said computer in cars and on trains are seen as the main customers for the GV-8.

Sony also hopes the machine will spur sales of video magazines and help popularise the company's eight-mm format, which competes with the VHS-C compact-size system developed by Japanese competitor JVC, he said.

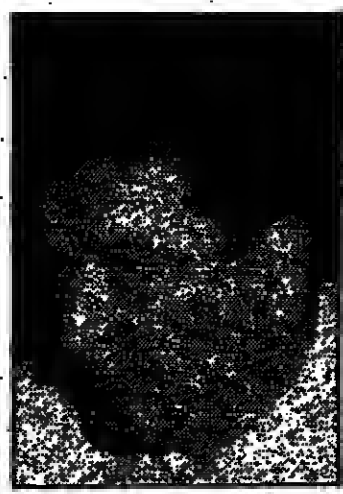
One cassette, slightly larger than a conventional audio cassette, can play for up to four hours.

tors' foreign currency transfers and their management of projects.

Draft proposals for several projects have already been handed to the Kuwaitis for consideration.

The projects include hotels, holiday resorts, sports centres, health resorts and motels. It has also been suggested that the Kuwaitis could invest in holiday resorts with special features for the use of Arab visitors only.

The Yugoslavs count on Kuwait's interest in the projects pointing to the longstanding friendship and trust between the two countries as well as the profit factor. Popovich views the proposals as a way of promoting the economic cooperation between the two countries which has already chalked up some achievements such as \$500



Miroje Popovich

million worth of construction work carried out in Kuwait by Yugoslav companies.

Popovich held talks in Kuwait with the officials from the Kuwait Investment Authority, the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Touristic Enterprise Company.

He pointed out that joint venture projects in tourism, one of the most profitable branches of Yugoslav economy, are among the most sought after by European investors some of whom have already signed contracts with Yugoslav companies.

The proposals are an outcome of a long-term plan for the development of tourism which spans the period between 1977 and the year 2000 and which envisages that 50 per cent of all projects will be supported by foreign capital, said Popovich.

"You can't go wrong with investing in Yugoslav tourism"

said Popovich adding that the annual seven per cent growth rate in tourist arrivals and 10 per cent growth rate in income from tourism have been most encouraging. Tourism is expected to reach \$7 billion in the year 2000.

Projects

Most of the proposed projects are centred on the Adriatic coast which is among the cleanest and least exploited areas in Europe. The Yugoslav part of the Adriatic coast, much of which is still virgin land, is 610 kilometres long as the crow flies but by road it stretches up to 2092 kilometres with numerous bays, coves and islands.

According to the current projections even when all the present plans for coastal

development are effected only 16 per cent of the coastal area will have been exploited by the year 2000. Out of 1,300 islands along the Adriatic coast only 64 are inhabited.

The new proposed joint venture programme is just one of the steps to revive the economy which also include a package of austerity measures expected to affect the Yugoslav standard of living.

The Yugoslav leadership is at pains to liberalise imports and stimulate exports and at the same time to free the economic activity from state interference, said Popovich.

The recent devaluation of the Yugoslav dinar by close to 24 per cent is also seen as a measure to help the country wriggle out of the economic crisis.

Tokyo will almost double its aid to Jakarta

Indonesian economy becomes increasingly tied to Japan

JAKARTA, May 31 (Reuters): Japan has stepped in with extra aid to help Indonesia manage its mounting foreign debt repayments, emphasising the Southeast Asian nation's increasingly close ties to Tokyo.

Japanese officials say Tokyo will almost double its aid to Indonesia in the financial year which began in April to \$2.3 billion, from 1.23 billion last year.

The aid will account for almost 30 per cent of Indonesia's total external financing needs, estimated by the World Bank at \$7.8 billion in 1988/89.

This massive aid is sucking Indonesia increasingly into the orbit of the powerful Japanese economy, despite its strong trade links with the United States, Southeast Asia and Western Europe, bankers and businessmen say.

"The Japanese are treading warily. They see Indonesia as a stable supplier of oil and raw materials, and they don't want things to sour politically by crossing local sensibilities," said one Western banker who did not wish to be identified.

Japan takes half Indonesia's oil exports, is its biggest foreign investor by far, and one third of Indonesia's official overseas debt of \$47.3 billion is in yen.

Indonesia, with its population of 175 million, is an important resource base for Japan. It is a major supplier of rubber, palm oil, tin and coffee, while almost all its exports of copper and nickel are sold to Japan.

Of a total of \$17.1 billion of exports in 1987, Indonesia sold some 40 per cent to Japan.

Japanese Foreign Minister, Sosuke Uno, underscored Tokyo's strategic view of Indonesia during a visit to Jakarta in early

May, recalling the help Opec-member Indonesia gave Japan during the oil crisis in the 1970s.

But Japan, using its weight as a major trading partner, has not been slow to gripe about the business and investment climate in Indonesia, which Japanese businessmen say is now less attractive than in other Southeast Asian countries like Thailand and Malaysia.

Political ties remain sensitive, partly because of Japan's invasion and occupation of Indonesia in World War II. Anti-Japanese riots broke out during a 1974 visit to Indonesia by Kakuei Tanaka, then Japan's prime minister.

"We have to be very careful about local sensitivities, not to appear to be coming in here telling people what to do," said one Japanese businessman.

Last August, then Indonesian Foreign Minister, Mochtar Kusumaatmadja said he welcomed Japan's growing presence in the region linked through the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), which comprises Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines.

But he said ties should be put on a more equal footing. "Japan's relationship with Asean should change to a form which would ensure equal benefit to both parties," Mochtar said.

"This would lead to stability and prosperity in the Asean area, which in turn, is closely linked to the peace and prosperity of Japan, as the Asean countries are major economic partners of Japan, and most importantly, bold Japan's lifeline to raw materials."

With one third of Indonesia's state budget going to finance its

growing debt repayments, the government has little option but to turn to Japan for help.

The fall in oil prices and the appreciation of the yen has added to Indonesia's difficulties, and without Japanese help many major capital spending projects would have to be scrapped because of government cutbacks.

The World Bank has recommended a group of 14 donor countries to provide soft loans and assistance worth \$3.6 billion this year. Of this, Japan will provide \$1.4 billion.

Much of this will be spent on projects which can be implemented quickly, so that the economic impact is fast. Indonesia is worried about growing unemployment, particularly in the cities, and is anxious to maintain economic growth to avoid social unrest.

Mail-order purchases help Japanese consumers beat high cost of living

TOKYO, May 31 (UPI): For Japanese consumers, who endure the world's highest prices, playing the import game could become a national pastime.

Although the Japanese yen has risen some 70 per cent against the US dollar since late 1985, making the cost of foreign goods here cheaper, the Japanese have reaped few benefits at home and they are starting to complain.

A sign of the times is the emergence of mail-order purchasing, plus import games individual consumers play to bring in foreign goods at reasonable prices.

For years low consumption, high personal savings and loyalty to domestic products was the rule in Japan. The government kept imports at bay with closed markets.

But in 1986, then-Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone appeared on television exhorting his countrymen to buy imports to pare down Japan's trade surplus and keep pace with its trading

partners, notably the United States.

Japanese people pay the world's highest prices for consumer goods, domestic products and imports. A made-in-Japan Minolta camera or Panasonic portable telephone can cost twice as much in Tokyo as in New York.

This is partly due to Japan's intricate and multi-layered distribution network, which adds extra costs as goods wind their way from manufacturer to consumer.

Many Japanese consumers justify this situation with a nationalist argument. They are happy to pay high prices if it keeps their neighbours employed.

But more Japanese are beginning to notice the sizeable gap between their standard of living and the immense national wealth; their hard work and sacrifice have helped create since the end of World War II.

One way they are finding to

close the gap is mail-order buying abroad.

Subaru World Trading Co., a mail-order business of Fuji Heavy Industries, sells camping gear and other outdoor and sports goods through catalogues in 260 of its Subaru auto showrooms throughout Japan.

The company uses the gear to attract buyers to its rugged four-wheel drive vehicles, but the scheme also exposes smaller foreign companies, such as Sportsman's Guide of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Caribou Mountaineering Inc. of Chico, California, to the Japanese market.

For the Japanese consumer, the chief advantage is low prices, since sales bypass the distribution network and sell directly to the consumer.

A hurberry trenchcoat that sells in one catalogue for \$475 in the United States is \$75 via direct mail-order. But that is at least \$200 cheaper than in a Japanese retail store.

US banking industry seen coping with setbacks

WASHINGTON, May 31 (UPI): The US banking industry is beginning to make a comeback from the major setbacks it faced in 1987, according to Robert Heller, a governor of the US Federal Reserve Board.

Heller, testifying before the Senate Banking Committee on May 25, said that 1987 was "an extremely difficult year" for the US banking system as earnings declined and the number of problem banks and bank failures reached record highs, according to US Information Service.

Despite the difficulties, he said, many banking institutions are beginning to see their earnings and asset quality improve as the economy continues to grow, conditions in the agricultural sector improve and export growth helps strengthen industrial and manufacturing sectors.

Heller made these points about the performance of the banking industry:

— Asset quality. The ratio of nonperforming assets to total assets — a key indicator of asset quality — rose from 1.6 per cent in 1986 to a post-war high of 2.1 per cent at the end of 1987.

Non-performing assets are loans on which the interest or principal being paid is not sufficient to meet the terms of the loan.

Assets

For 17 multinational bank holding companies, the ratio increased from 2.2 per cent to 3.6 per cent of total assets, largely a result of developing country debt that banks declared to be in "nonaccrual status" and continuing energy and real estate-related problems in the Southwest.

Nonaccrual status, an accounting term, signifies that a loan payment is at least 90 days due. However, if the effect of developing country nonaccruals and the energy

World Business Summary

Central Bank offers discount facilities

The governor of Kuwait Central Bank Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah said "interest rates on Kuwaiti dinars cannot be separated from those of international currencies." Though, Kuwait is a free economy, the Central Bank continually monitors foreign currencies interest rates to study their effects on the Kuwaiti dinar and the local economic situation and takes appropriate measures to stabilise the monetary market, he said.

As a measure to protect local banking interest rates, Sheikh Salem said the Central Bank has been offering discount facilities, which, during April and mid-May had registered a growth rate in the range of 25 per cent.

In protecting interest rates of the Kuwaiti dinar, the Central Bank is committed to providing local banks with the required liquidity.

One such measure, he said, was the recent Central Bank's involvement in purchasing and selling treasury orders to obtain the required liquidity.

The Central Bank is continually involved in adopting different policies and utilising sophisticated economic techniques to solve problems that have been "cropping up" during the past few years: specifically the AI Manak crisis and the consequent restructuring and organising the programme of solving the difficult and complicated "debtors problems" and reactivating the economic market; including the continual restructuring of interest rates on the Kuwaiti dinar. Sheikh Salem disclosed that local banks recorded a 4.5 per cent increase in economic growth in 1987 compared to 1986 and he expected this growth to show a marked improvement for the year end 1988 compared to 1986 to 1987.

Hungary and S. Korea to promote trade links

SEOUL, South Korea, May 31 (AP): Hungary and South Korea agreed in principle today to set up a private economic committee to promote trade between the two countries, government officials said.

The agreement was reached between Peter Loerincz, secretary-general of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce, and Park Young-Soo, president of the state-run Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (Kotra), the officials said. "They agreed in principle to set up a committee, comprising private business leaders of the two countries, to promote bilateral trade and economic relations," a Kotra spokesman said. Loerincz, who arrived on Sunday at the head of a 30-member trade mission, also met today with Nam Duck-Woo, chairman of the Korea Foreign Trade Association, and Kim Sang-Ha, president of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It was the first Hungarian trade mission ever sent to South Korea. The two countries have no diplomatic relations. Economic relations between the two countries have been expanding since last December when South Korea opened its first trade office in Budapest. Hungary reciprocated by setting up a trade office in Seoul in March. Korea represented South Korea in trade talks with Hungary. During its stay in Seoul, the Hungarian mission will hold "Hungary week" starting on Wednesday, featuring a trade exhibition and cultural and food festivals at the Lotte shopping centre in downtown Seoul.

South Korea plans to use the improved relations with Hungary as a model in promoting trade links with other East European nations, with which it has no diplomatic relations.

Taiwan major investor in Manila: trade secretary

MANILA, Philippines, May 31 (AP): Taiwan is replacing the United States and Japan as the principal foreign investor in the Philippines, Trade Secretary Jose Concepcion said today. The government expected foreign investment to grow from \$420 million last year to between \$1 billion and \$1.5 billion by the end of 1988, Concepcion told reporters. "If we look at a billion dollars, probably 40 per cent will be from Taiwan," Concepcion said. He attributed the increase to an appreciation of the Taiwan dollar, the Philippines' proximity to Taiwan and low labour costs in the Philippines. The Taiwanese are also less interested in investing elsewhere in Southeast Asia, he said. Taiwanese investments have centred on the plastics industry and garments. He said 25 to 30 per cent of investments were expected to be from the US, followed by about 20 per cent from Japan. The secretary, speaking at a forum on a US-proposed "mini-Marshall plan" of American aid, said funds should go to agriculture, which accounts for about 70 per cent of the Philippines' export earnings. "What we need is not the 'mini-Marshall plan' but an agro-industrial plan which would beef up our economy," he said. US officials have disclosed no details, but the Washington Post said last month that the United States would work with its allies to put together a \$10 billion package modelled after the Marshall plan which rebuilt Japan and Western Europe after World War II. Economist Alejandro Lichauco warned that the aid programme, "within context of our development programme, ... will work against our interest."

Export oil prices unchanged

CAIRO, May 31 (AP): Egypt's crude oil export prices will remain unchanged during the first half of June, an Oil Ministry official said today. The prices will remain in effect from June 1-15 and will be \$14.85 a barrel for top-grade Gulf of Suez blend and \$14 a barrel for Belayim, said Hamed Ayyoub, director of foreign sales at the Oil Ministry. Ras Badran will sell at \$13.10 a barrel and Ras Ghareb at \$12.40 a barrel.

This is the fourth time in a row that Egypt has maintained its prices over bi-weekly periods since the second half of April. Egypt is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, but sets its export prices at regular intervals depending on the world market conditions.

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Welfare recipients become entrepreneurs in pilot projects

ST PAUL, Minnesota, May 31 (AP): A programme targeted at low-income women in Minnesota is helping welfare recipients create their own jobs and build successful businesses.

Promoters hope its success will spread to the rest of the country. "A lot of people told me this was going to fail miserably," said Kathryn S. Keeley, president of the 5-year-old women's Economic Development Corp., which graduates its first class of 18 fledgling entrepreneurs today.

Under the plan, welfare recipients receive training and then continue getting public assistance while receiving subsidised loans to help them start businesses ranging from cleaning companies to hair-styling salons.

"The first hurdle we had to cross in this area was scepticism. Can poor women do it?" Friedman said.

The organisation began its first class for welfare entrepreneurs in March under the federal self-employment investment demonstration. Keeley said she hopes 90 people will graduate by the end of the year.

Minnesota is the first of five states to launch the programme, which is co-ordinated by the private, non-profit corporation for enterprise development in Washington, said Robert Friedman, the corporation's president.

The corporation persuaded federal officials to waive regulations which reduce or eliminate

benefits when recipients get jobs. Friedman said. Participants continue receiving assistance even after they start their own businesses so they can re-invest profits.

Plan

At the women's Economic Development Corp., recipients devise a business plan, learn about marketing, financial management and other skills and are encouraged to start thinking like entrepreneurs.

They can borrow up to \$5,000, to be repaid in small increments as their businesses progress, said Joyce Yamamoto, who directs the organisation's pilot project known as the self-employment training opportunities programme.

Once a month for at least a

year, recipients are required to work with the organisation's accountant to do book-keeping.

"The whole point of that is to get them off on the right foot," Ms Yamamoto said.

An aspiring filmmaker, one of the few men to complete the programme, said welfare recipients face challenges other entrepreneurs don't.

Down

"Most of us who have been down and out have had our self-esteem shattered. They realised it was important to build that up," he said of the programme, asking not to be identified for fear it might hurt his business.

Promoters point out that the programme isn't a cure-all for welfare problems.

"People get poor for different reasons. They are going to escape in different ways," Friedman reasoned.

A forerunner to the current programme was launched three years ago. In that time, 22 women started businesses and three have already repaid their loans, Ms Keeley said.

"They don't hand the business to you. You have to work for it," said Ellie Richardson, who has cleaned homes and businesses most of her life and started a janitorial service in late 1986. "They give you the right contacts. If you don't follow through, it's your fault."

Ms Richardson is self-supporting now and employs about 10 people.

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	INCHCAPE	795.0
ABBEY LIFE	285/0	JAGUAR	257/4
ADT LTD	116/0	LAOBBRO	409/0
ALO LYONS	438/0	LAND SECS	588/0
AMSTRAD	188/0	LAPORTE	403/0
ARGYLL GP	195/0	LASMO	402/0
ASDA GP	160/0	LEGAL-GEN	260/0
BAA	285/0	LOWRHO	232/4
BTR	262/0	LUCAS IND	513/0
BAT INDS	407/0	MAGNET	245/0
BARCLAYS	395/0	MARKS+SP	175/0
BASS	797/0	MAXWELL C	227/0
BEAZER	168/0	METAL BOX	204/0
BEECHAM'S	464/0	MEPC	567/0
BELFORD	320/0	MIDLAND BK	395/0
BICC PLC	325/0	NEXT	287/0
BLUE ARROW	115/0	P & O DFD	575/0
BLUE CIRC	414/0	PEARL	480/0
BUC GP	372/0	PEARSON	699/0
BOOTS CO	206/0	PILKINGTON	192/0
BR INDS	273/0	PIRELLA	154/5
BR COM	248/0	PRUDENTIAL	153/0
BR AIRWAY	146/0	RACAL	313/0
BR AEROSP	382/0	RANK HVS	358/0
BR GAS RG	167/0	RANK ORG	705/0
B.P.	260/0	REACTITCO	865/0
B.P.NEV	64/0	RELAND	402/0
BR TELCOM	237/0	REED	420/0
BRITOL	140/0	RYL BK SC	335/0
BURNHAM OL	331/4	RMC GRP	468/0
BURTON	258/0	RUSTRONG	482/0
CABLESUIT	348/0	RTZ CORP	407/0
CADBURTS	417/0	ROLLS ROY	120/0
COATS VNY	350/0	ROTHMAN B	422/0
COM VNY	258/0	ROYNREE	036/0
CONSONS	052/5	ROYAL INS	387/0
COOKSONS	517/0	SAATCHI	365/0
COURTAULD	338/6	SAINSBURY	216/0
DALGETY	307/0	SCOT-NEV	320/0
DEE CP	185/0	SEARS	122/0
DIXONS	180/0	SEDEMICK	228/0
ENG CHINA	450/0	SETHI	025/0
ENTER OIL	392/0	SMITH IND	230/0
FKI BACK	124/0	SMITH-NEP	117/0
FERRANTI	79/0	STC	252/0
GEN ACCIO	890/0	STOREN	259/0
GEN ELEC	145/0	SUN ALLIA	917/0
GLAND	900/0	TARMAC	245/0
GRANADA	307/0	TATE&L	755/0
GLOBE	135/0	TESCO	146/0
GLTWEED	453/0	THORN EMT	633/0
GRAND MET	503/0	TRAF HSE	297/0
GUARD RYL	880/0	T+M	177/0
GUN	321/0	TRUSTHOUSE	235/0
GUINNESS	319/0	ULTRAWAR	282/0
HANSON	125/0	UNILEVER	438/0
HAVERSID	495/0	UNIGATE	314/0
HILLSDON	270/4	UTD BISC	287/0
ICI	958/0	UTD MNSP	407/0
INT	186/0	WELLCOME	534/0
		WILBERD IN	288/0
		WILLIAMS	268/0
		WILLIS FB	255/0
		WIMPET G	250/0
		WOOLSWORTH	287/0

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	689/0	687/0
A.B.ELECT	415/0	418/0
AAN HLD	280/0	278/0
AARONSON	115/0	116/0
ACRE OIL	185/0	186/0
ADDITION	42/0	41/0
ADVEST	322/0	323/0
ALEX WRM	171/0	172/0
ALEXON	385/0	386/0
ALCO COLL	126/0	126/0
ALLO PLMT	50/0	50/0
ALLIANCE	769/0	770/0
AMARI	208/0	209/0
AMEC	373/0	373/0
AMER TRST	115/4	117/0
ANGLO O'S	193/4	193/0
APRIOT	101/0	99/0
APV PLC	113/0	113/0
AQUAS.A.	88/0	88/0
ARAH ENG	75/0	75/0
ARCHER AJ	157/0	158/0
ARLINGTON	208/0	208/0
ARNSTRONG	123/0	123/0
ASHLEY.LA	114/0	114/0
ATWOODS	277/0	277/0
AUS REE A	281/0	282/0
AUST REED	383/0	383/0
AVON RUBB	703/0	700/0
B.M.WHILL	165/0	165/0
BAILL JAP	494/0	493/0
BAIRD (V)	238/0	
BARKER DO	147/0	147/0
BARTHE DE	180/0	181/0
BAYNES C	169/0	168/0
BEJAN GP	169/0	168/0
BEHAVEN	45/0	46/0
BELLMAN	265/0	266/0
BENLOX ND	64/0	64/0
BENTALLS	187/0	188/0
BERKELEY	343/0	343/0
BH GROUP	120/0	120/0
BIRNIO LD	395/0	395/0
BLK OF SCD	534/0	534/0
BLACKWOOD	52/4	52/0
BLACK LK	2/4	1/4
BRIETT AF	37/0	37/0
BOASE HAS	252/0	252/0
BOOTHING	151/0	151/0
BOOTH SHP	610/0	610/0
BOOKER	404/0	405/0
BOUTHWICK	66/0	66/0
BOUATER	373/0	374/0
BOUTHORPE	158/0	157/0
BR ASSETS	63/4	63/4
BR DREGDI	128/0	128/0
BR LAND	340/0	341/0
BR VITA	216/0	217/0
BRANMER	240/0	240/0

BRENT CHE

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
139/0	140/0	
372/0	371/0	
171/4	171/0	
078/0	080/0	
320/0	319/0	
105/0	104/0	
61/0	61/0	
178/0	178/0	
374/0	372/0	
224/0	223/0	
50/0	51/0	
182/0	181/0	
181/0	181/0	
256/0	256/0	
294/0	295/0	
261/0	262/0	
162/0	163/0	
123/0	123/0	
815/0	813/0	
91/0	91/0	
370/0	370/0	
539/0	538/0	
17/6	18/0	
137/0	136/0	
338/0	338/0	
48/0	48/0	
553/0	553/0	
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253/0	248/0	
108/0	108/0	
218/0	218/0	
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182/4	183/0	
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17/4	17/4	
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315/0	315/0	
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633/0	633/0	
626/0	625/0	
409/0	410/0	
39/0	39/0	
233/0	233/0	
135/0	135/0	
293/0	292/0	

ROTOKK

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
143/0	144/0	
207/0	210/0	
258/0	258/0	
200/0	200/0	
166/0	165/0	
47/0	47/0	
138/0	140/0	
207/0	206/0	
184/0	184/0	
117/0	117/0	
131/0	132/0	
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381/0	376/0	
25/0	26/0	
92/4	92/4	
5/0	5/0	
79/5	79/7	
98/0	99/0	
70/0	70/0	
81/0	80/0	
346/0	346/0	
253/0	253/0	
75/0	76/0	
313/0	313/0	
408/0	423/0	
58/4	59/0	
408/0	423/0	
118/0	119/0	
16/0	16/0	
190/0	191/0	
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103/0	105/0	
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29/0	29/0	
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335/0	335/0	
342/0	340/0	
429/0	428/0	
160/0	161/0	
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109/0	109/0	
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66/0	66/0	
88/0	89/0	
36/0	36/0	
186/0	186/0	
168/0	168/0	
313/0	313/0	
286/0	286/0	
153/0	154/0	
139/0	139/0	
29/4	29/0	
31/0	31/0	
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Platinum prices jump on Japanese buying

Dollar strengthens, gold gains

LONDON, May 31. (AP): The US dollar closed mostly higher in thin European trading today as foreign currency dealers in London and New York returned from holiday weekends. Gold prices rose.

Finding the American currency higher and lacking any reason to sell it, dealers said market players pushed it higher in Europe.

"We came back from our long weekend to find the dollar higher than we remembered it," said David Deacon of EBC-Amro Bank in London.

Rise

London dealers said the dollar's rise yesterday, when they were on holiday, was the result of higher US interest rates and momentum from the dollar's rise through a resistance point of 171.50 West German marks on Friday.

The West German central bank intervened in the market today by selling \$7.4 million, but dealers said it had little impact on the market.

Against the trend, the US currency closed lower than the Dutch guilder, Italian lira and Canadian dollar.

Earlier, the dollar closed in Tokyo at 124.80 Japanese yen, down from yesterday's 124.93 yen. In later London trading it rose to 125.50 yen.

Gained

The dollar also gained against the British pound in London, where it was quoted late today at \$1.8385 compared with 1.8478 in Europe yesterday and 1.8570 in London late Friday.

Other late dollar rates in Lon-

don, compared with late yesterday:

— 1.7292 West German marks, up from 1.7270

— 1.4437 Swiss francs, up from 1.4415

— 5.8215 French francs, up from 5.7025

— 1.9333 Dutch guilders, down from 1.9335

— 1.2795 Italian lire, down from 1.2800

— 1.2357 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2378

Gold prices firmed in Europe, boosted by gains in platinum, bullion dealers said.

The late bid price in London was \$454.80 a troy ounce, up from late Friday's \$452. The London market was closed yesterday for a national holiday.

In Zurich, gold closed at a bid of \$455 up from late yesterday's \$452.50.

Earlier, gold closed in Hong Kong at a bid of \$455.80 up from 454.31.

Surprising

Silver bullion traded in London late today at a bid \$6.65 a troy ounce, up from 6.59 in London late Friday and 6.57 in Zurich yesterday.

Meanwhile strong Japanese buying helped to send platinum prices soaring in bullion markets today but precious metals analysts said they were unsure the rally would continue.

Platinum — used to make jewellery, car exhaust anti-pollution devices and glass — jumped nearly \$30 an ounce to a high of \$622 in early European trading and then steadied at around \$602.

But the size of its sharp early

jump surprised traders.

"It's true the Japanese are buying, but the question is why. It's hard to say," said Werner Hechler, a platinum trader at Bank Leu in Zurich.

"I find the big rise in platinum very surprising. It's not so long ago that the price was the same as gold. If there's a correction in the market, it could be very abrupt. Maybe there's some investor group buying, I just don't know," he added.

Jewellery and investor demand for platinum is traditionally stronger in Japan and Asia than in the West. The Japanese use platinum in jewellery almost as much as gold.

Estimates by Christian Podkaska and Van Musschenbroek Ltd (CPM Group), a New York-based research firm, put Japanese demand for platinum at 1.3 million ounces in 1987 or 46 per cent of world demand.

Analysts said the strength of the yen had until recently boosted Japanese demand. Since platinum is traded in dollars, a strong yen boosts Japanese buyers' purchasing power.

But, they added, the yen factor was no longer so important.

Price

Graham Birch, an analyst with London brokers Kleinwort Greaveson, said there had been no big enough recent changes in either demand or supply to justify current high prices.

He said traders had been forced to buy platinum now to cover earlier commitments to supply the metal. They worry that if the Japanese buying continues,

prices will rise high enough to mean big losses should they delay such purchases.

"The price could go even higher on speculative buying in a relatively thin market but there is nothing behind it and gains will not be sustained," he added.

Hans Peter Hausherr, precious metals analyst at Swiss Bank Corporation, said Japanese buyers are worried about the possibility of a strike by black miners in South Africa, a major supplier.

Miners are now negotiating with their employers for a new contract.

Rebecca Tabatabai, precious metals analyst at Credit Suisse, said the platinum price was also buoyed recently by concern that South Africa might counter economic sanctions by curtailing exports to the West.

Fears

"Another factor has been the legal proceedings started by the Bafokeng tribe and fears that this could hit the Impala mine in the homeland of Bophuthatswana," she said.

The Bafokeng claim that Impala, whose platinum mine is the second biggest in South Africa, has breached the terms of a 1977 agreement under which the tribe is entitled to a share of the company's taxable income.

The speculators turned to other precious metals, too. Gold and silver also firmed, though not by as much as platinum which has traded volatily over the past several weeks on fears of South African supplies could be disrupted.

But in London, mining com-

pany shares were little changed.

British stock market investors were more interested in finding companies that could be possible targets for takeovers.

Cadbury-Schweppes Plc shares jumped 14 pence (26 cents) to \$4.20 (\$7.7). The chocolates and soft-drinks giant's shares have been especially strong ever since US-based General Cinema Corp said it might bid for control.

But trading generally was very light and the FTSE index of 100 blue chip British shares opened just 1.8 points higher at 1,785.5.

"Apart from Cadbury I think the major feature is the number of shares which have yet to move," one trader said.

In Tokyo, the world's biggest stock market, however, the 225-share Nikkei average rose 193.60 points, or 0.71 per cent, to end at 27,416.70 after jumping 260.60 points yesterday.

Effort

"Today is the last day of trading for the calendar month," a broker said. "There are lots of efforts to boost volume, and brokerages are concentrating on large capitals and cheap stock."

A report that Japan's trade surplus for the first 20 days of May fell to \$1.63 billion from \$2.84 billion a year ago had only a limited impact on financial markets.

Elsewhere, Frankfurt's 30-share Boersen-Zeitung index rose 2.68 points to 299.35. The Paris Bourse indicator rose 0.21 per cent, the All-Share Swiss index rose 6.5 points to 818.4 and Amsterdam's CBS all share index was up 0.1 points at 83.7.

Financial community urged to attract more funds

Confidence returns to Kuwait market

MOHAMMED Abdulmohsen Al Khorafi, the chairman of the National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) in an interview with a local daily, said the Kuwaiti financial and monetary authorities had succeeded to a great extent in guiding the national economy wisely during foreign fluctuations. These measures, he said, had contributed positively towards restoring confidence in the economic sphere and boosting private sector contributions in economic development.

Funds

He said "it is very difficult to isolate the national economy entirely from foreign economic influences" and called on local financial institutions to focus on two specifics: "supporting financial soundness and obtaining optimum benefit from the new policies instituted by the financial and monetary authorities."

He urged the financial community to attract more local

funds deposited abroad by offering new facilities and lucrative avenues of investments.

Al Khorafi disclosed that in the past few years, the Kuwaiti Gross National Product (GNP) had contracted significantly — from KD6.3 billion in 1983 to KD5 billion in 1986.

Hike

However, he said, it was the first occasion since 1982 that the non-oil sector had realised a tangible growth estimated at 6.4 per cent in 1986. He added that the national economy would witness a reactivation in the middle of the financial year which he attributed to the anticipated expansion in government expenditure which had increased at 3.4 per cent in the fiscal budget 1987/1988.

Such expenditure would record another hike in the fiscal year 1988/1989, adding that the budget for 1988/89 had allocated 7.5 per cent (KD650 million) for

development projects.

He said he based his assumptions on the significant retreat of inflation rates which stabilised at 1 per cent only.

Savings had also registered 45 per cent of national production revenues.

In a related issue, he said the current account of the country had realised a flow of KD1.7 billion during 1988 and some vital sectors had achieved a growth rate of 24 per cent.

On the international level, Al Khorafi was pessimistic as OECD countries along with the developing countries were adversely affected by soaring inflation rates. Additionally, the USA was suffering from a severe deficit in its budget and a huge deficit in its balance of trade which proportionately increased its foreign debts. Additionally, fluctuations in the world markets, including stocks and foreign exchange counters had not yet stabilised.



Picture shows Oman's Ambassador to Kuwait, Abdullah Bin Mohammed Al Kharusi (left) who paid a courtesy visit yesterday to the Oapec offices, where he was received by the Acting Secretary-General Abdelaziz Al Wattari. The discussions centred on continuing cooperative efforts between Oman and Oapec including Oman's advances in various fields.

US still undecided on backing international coffee agreement

LONDON, May 31. (Reuters): The United States, the world's biggest coffee consumer, has not yet decided whether to support a new international agreement to stabilise prices, a senior US official said today.

Talks on the future of the international coffee agreement, which expires in September 1989, began this morning with a larger than expected crowd of coffee producer and consumer delegates in attendance.

Trade

But delegates at the week-long International Coffee Organisation (ICO) talks so far disagree on whether the accord should be extended, revised or scrapped.

"We haven't decided whether we will participate in a new agreement," Martin Bailey, economic adviser in the US State Department, told Reuters.

"Our coffee trade does not back a new agreement," he said, adding that US officials weigh the views of coffee dealers and

processors very carefully.

"The trade is influential, though not decisive" in US coffee policy, he added.

The US government is likely to make a decision on the coffee agreement in the next month or two, Bailey said.

Delegates from coffee producing nations said the success of any new coffee agreement could hinge on the US attitude.

"It wouldn't be worth having a coffee agreement with economic provisions if the largest consumer wasn't involved," a representative of a leading coffee producing country said.

Changes

But the United States said it wants changes in any new coffee agreement, and key US officials like special trade representative Clayton Yeutter have generally opposed commodity agreements in the past.

Meanwhile, Brazil, the largest producer of coffee, said it continues to oppose major change in

the coffee agreement.

The problems which have kept the ICO from doing more about severely depressed coffee prices can be resolved by amending the current agreement but leaving the structure intact, said Ambassador Lindenberg Sette, Brazil's ICO representative.

"We are willing to listen and talk and we have unlimited patience," Sette said.

Prices

Among the most important of the problems is the lack of controls on ICO members' sales of coffee at discounted prices to non-ICO members, he said.

With coffee prices already under pressure because of a worldwide glut, such sales strain the ICO's already stretched capacity to buoy the market.

The United States, European Economic Community and other consumers have been upset by ICO pricing of sales to non-members.

Taiwan boosts reserves

Sharp increase in gold production

LONDON, May 31. (UPI): Gold production in the Western world is likely to reach 1,500 metric tons a year, up from 1,380 metric tons last year and 1,280 metric tons in 1986, a report by commodity broker E.D. & F. Man said today.

Sharply increased output was seen in most of the major producing countries, with the exception of South Africa.

The United States was expected to show the largest percentage increase with output in 1988 estimated at 200 metric tons, up from 150 metric tons last year and just 108 metric tons as recently as 1986, the report said.

South African production was forecast to fall to 600 metric tons this year from 615 metric tons in 1987 and 640 metric tons the previous year, the report said.

Production

Soviet output continued to dominate socialist nations' production, accounting for 77 per cent, followed by China, which presented about 21 per cent.

Total East bloc sales to the West were forecast to average 300 metric tons in both 1987 and 1988, the report said.

Strong demand from the Far East, led by Japan and Taiwan, has absorbed some of the surplus supplies, the report said.

Taiwan has been boosting reserves by buying US gold, a development which was largely responsible for improvement in the US March trade deficit, the report said.

The report said the extra off-take will underpin prices for the present, but if it is not sustained the outlook for 1989 will be less constructive.

Demand

World demand for jewellery was expected to recover this year from a slight decline in 1987, following last October's stock market crash, the report said.

The use of gold in coins is likely to be little changed from last year's 200 metric tons, well below 1986's record of 327 metric tons. The Soviet Union is to enter the ranks of gold coin production this year with the 'bear' joining the eagle, panda, nugget, maple leaf and others.

Meanwhile, silver prices should oscillate for the most part of this year between \$6 and \$7 per ounce, an annual review by commodity trader Shearson Lehman Hutton said today.

For the rest of 1988 and into 1989, there are two factors that will govern the market, said Shearson Lehman Hutton's 1988 annual review of the world silver industry. Shearson is part of the American Express Co.

Coin demand, reflecting grassroots interest and comprising a significant proportion of investor purchases, should remain strong, particularly with the Olympic Games commemorative coins boosting interest in the autumn, it said.

Revenue

In the short term, fluctuations in oil revenue according to the Middle East countries will affect silver prices (in both directions) due to the importance of the Middle East in the marketplace, the review said.

During 1987, silver led something of a jumpy and hydra existence spending half the year trading as an industrial metal and half as a precious metal, the review said.

Values ranged between \$5.36 and \$11.40, spent most of the year between \$6 and \$8 an ounce and averaged \$7.02, the review said.

Growth

In 1988, with a fine balance in the West between steady economic growth and inflationary fears, the review expected the market to oscillate for the most part between \$6 and \$7 an ounce.

Having opened the year toward the highs and then retreated with gold, the market should give a solid performance

through the summer and autumn — and the review envisaged clearance of \$7 an ounce before the year's end.

As always, though, speculative rallies could be explosive, the review said.

Both supply and demand of silver have resumed an upward tack, figures in the review showed.

Mine supply in 1988 was expected to clear 1,000 metric tons for the first time, as the United States in particular will post a remarkable rise in production.

Increase

This stemmed from a large increase in silver produced as a by-product of gold mining, plus the beneficial results of the whole US Mining Industry's rationalisation of recent years, the review said.

Indeed, the same exercise is also bearing fruit in Australia and Canada, the review said.

Latin American output was expected to improve in 1988 as local small-scale production is encouraged as well as commercial-scale operations, the review said.

Peru, though, is becoming the Latin American equivalent of Zambia in the early 1980s, with equipment shortages and little foreign exchange with which to

effect the replacements, the review said.

Fabrication demand has also turned the corner with the downsizing and substitutions of recent years now fully discounted into consumption patterns, the review said.

Future off-take levels, firmly underpinned by a healthy photographic sector, will therefore, on the whole, run in line with industrial production, the review said.

The review said that in terms of supply-demand fundamentals, while the market remains oversupplied, the surplus material will be absorbed by a steady undertow of investment.

Significance

The massive stocks built up over many years and perceived to be overhanging the market are losing their significance as any material which was not tempted into the market during the drive to \$50 per ounce in January 1980 are not going to be drawn forth at values below \$20 an ounce now, the review said.

Of more importance was the buildup of 6,900 tons of bullion stocks since 1985 when the market dropped into the \$5 environs, as any purchaser at those levels may sell into any strength toward \$10, the review said.

New oil discovery in Oman to go on stream

MUSCAT, May 31. (AP): A new oil discovery in Oman capable of an output of 2,500 barrels of oil a day is scheduled to begin producing within the next two weeks, oil industry sources said today.

The Rajah field in the Bahja region of central Oman is operated by the state-owned Petroleum Development Oman. It will be the company's 50th field.

It will be hooked up to the Salwa production station about 10 miles (16 kilometres) away and from there into the main oil pipeline, the sources said.

Production

Oman, which is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, recently reversed a five per cent production cut and began producing within a ceiling of 600,000 barrels a day from May 1.

It will maintain this level until Opec talks resume in Vienna next month, oil officials said.

The sultanate has in the past cooperated with efforts by the 13-nation organisation to curb oil supply on the world market to defend Opec's benchmark price of \$18 a barrel.

Lebanese pound gains

BEIRUT, May 31. (Reuters): The Lebanese pound strengthened today closing at 362.75/363.25 against the dollar compared with its previous close on Monday of 361.50/364.00, the Central Bank said.

Continued fear of inflation and dollar's strength depress prices

Bond dealers to air disputes at US session

LONDON, May 31: The world's international bond dealers head to Dallas this week with about as many problems as the Ewing family, whose doings many of them follow in the widely distributed television show set there, the Wall Street Journal has reported.

Like the feuding Ewings, the 900 members of the Association of International Bond Dealers also have sharp differences. These threaten to turn their traditionally congenial annual meeting into more of a Texas-style showdown. The session runs from Wednesday through Friday.

As they contemplate what to pack for Dallas, dealers are making last-ditch efforts to resolve a major dispute over a computer system to track the market's \$5 trillion in annual trades.

But that is only the latest problem to face the Eurobond industry, for which the Zurich-based AIBD serves as an umbrella group.

A sharp erosion of profits spurred dozens of firms to close or pare Eurobond dealing desks over the past year, and there doesn't seem to be an end in sight to the shake out.

Declined

In 1987, new-issue volume declined for the first time since 1980 by a sizable 25 per cent to the equivalent of \$134 billion, according to Salomon Brothers Inc. Through late May, underwriting activity had edged slightly upward from the 1987 pace, but it remains stagnant in the traditional market core-fixed-rate dollar-denominated bonds.

Equally worrisome to the trading-oriented AIBD, some second-

dary market sectors have begun to show "illiquidity," the group notes in a recently published report.

And just when the industry is torn over how to address such problems, it is coming under government scrutiny for the first time, in Britain, where the bulk of Eurobond trading takes place.

So far, the AIBD has fended off direct supervision by persuading British authorities to let it monitor the market for violations of securities laws.

But the organisation now must perform credibly in that role, or the industry will face a push for even tighter regulation, senior AIBD officials say.

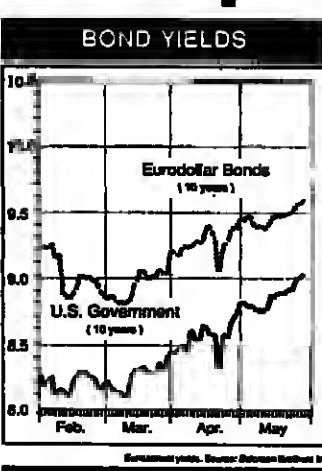
"The AIBD has changed from a trade organisation to a self-regulatory group," notes John Wolters, AIBD secretary general. Dallas will represent the first time it faces the public in that new role.

Facilities

Dallas, AIBD officials say, was chosen because of its ample convention facilities and because the AIBD hasn't held an annual meeting in the US for a long time, despite having significant membership there.

Barring a last-minute accord, however, the group's debut as a self-regulator may be less than orderly.

A key issue is a \$9 million, on-line computer system called Trax, which was approved by delegates to the AIBD's 1987 annual meeting about a year ago. After it is switched on, in late 1988 at the earliest, the London-based system would receive the details of each Eurobond trade directly from member firms within a few minutes of execu-



tion. Under the original plan, the data then would be transmitted to the industry's two major clearing houses, Euro-clear and Cedel, located on the Continent.

The dealers would continue to match buyers and sellers involved in the trades, as they do currently.

Trax backers say the system would bring badly needed technology to the market. Trading data, for example, could be used to compute a constantly moving index of Eurobond prices, similar to the Dow Jones Industrial Averages.

In turn, this could be used to develop the first Eurodollar bond-futures contract, a potentially valuable tool in hedging positions and a possible catalyst to greater secondary market participation.

Trax is so far technologically advanced (over anything now available) that there's no comparison," argues John Langton, an AIBD board member

involved in its design.

AIBD leaders also contend that they need Trax to comply with Britain's 1986 Financial Services Act, which takes effect this year. The law required London-based firms to meet various rules, such as capital-adequacy standards.

Recently, however, clearers began arguing that a less-advanced computer system they now use to gather data for matching trades could fill the reporting role for the AIBD and provide other necessary services for less money.

Delegates

But AIBD officials insist Trax will proceed even if Dallas delegates vote to kill it. The issue isn't officially on the agenda, and under the organisation's bylaws, the board wouldn't be bound by another vote, officials argue.

"Members voted for this (at last year's AIB annual meeting) by a 95 per cent margin," notes one AIBD official. "We've leased the building, bought the computers and invested a lot of time in it. Basically, it's in place."

Eurodollar bonds posted significant declines in some sectors on Friday, although activity generally was limited ahead of the three-day holiday weekend in the US and Britain.

In new issues, a availability of swaps prompted offerings of 100 million European currency units (\$122 million) by General Motors Acceptance Corp. and \$100 million Australian (US\$80 million) by H.J. Heinz Co.

Dollar issues included \$400 million of equity-warrant bonds by Nippon Express Co., a Japanese freight and parcel concern, and \$100 million with a floating-

rate conversion feature by News International Plc, the British publishing and broadcasting unit of Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.

In the secondary market, prices dropped about 1/2 point on selling by traders apparently unwilling to carry long positions through the holiday weekend.

Although the indicated coupon of 4-1/4 per cent on the Nippon Express issue was in line with other recent issues, the moderate response suggested that the equity-warrant bond sector is getting overcrowded, some dealers said.

Lead manager Nomura International Ltd quoted Nippon Express at less than, less one, compared with full fees of 2-1/4.

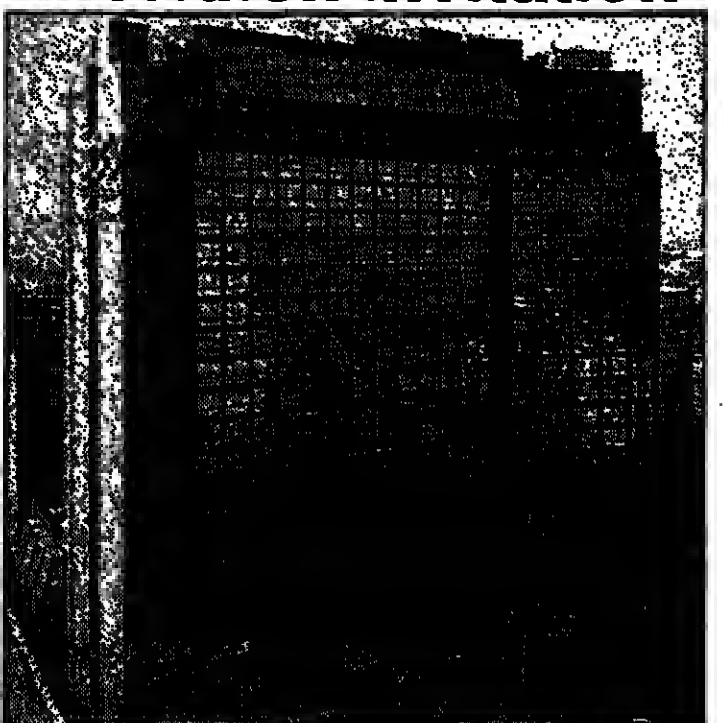
The Australian dollar issue launched for H.J. Heinz by Swiss Bank Corp. International probably provided the US food processor with quite attractive funding on the swap, dealers said. But the pricing wasn't similarly appealing to other dealers, who reportedly sold the bonds aggressively on launch.

An official at Banque Paribas Capital, lead manager for News International, said the issue hadn't traded extensively because it was targeted at a specialty market that included banks.

GMCA's Ecu offering, also led by Paribas, was said to have performed reasonably well in light of the growing surplus of recently launched Ecu bonds.

British gilts ended as much as 7/32 lower, but the market was hardly affected by the release of trade data showing slightly wider-than-expected deficits for April.

Meridien invitation



Kuwait's Meridien

A special offer from June 1, 1988 to August 31, 1988. For all members of Meridien invitation, stay free for 2 nights in any hotel of Meridien worldwide of your choice by staying for 8 paid days! Any Meridien hotel stay once and get 2 stamps instead of one stamp.

Japan's jobless rate drops

TOKYO, May 31. (AP): Reflecting a steady recovery in Japan's economy, the nation's unemployment rate fell to a seasonally adjusted 2.6 per cent in April from 3.0 per cent in the same month last year, the government reported today.

The number of people with jobs in April was 60.38 million across the country, an increase of 1.08 million over the same month of last year, according to the report, which was presented to

the Japanese cabinet this morning.

For the first time, more than 60 million workers were employed in Japan, which has a population of about 121 million, the report said. At the same time 1.66 million people were out of work, it said.

Japan's unemployment rate hit a record 3.2 per cent in May last year as manufacturers adjusted to the soaring value of the yen.

He's a man of peace, insists Sylvester Stallone

Rambo's back to 'whip' the Russians again

By Robert Barr

NEW YORK, (AP): Rambo rewrote the lessons of the Vietnam war by having a lone American guerrilla singlehandedly vanquish Hanoi's troops and their Soviet advisers. Now, he's back to whip the Red Army again — this time in Afghanistan.

After freeing American prisoners held long after the end of the Vietnam war in *Rambo: First Blood Part II*, the muscle-bound fighter faces a new Communist government propped up by Soviet military might.

Guess who wins. *Rambo III* features more of the cartoonish violence of its predecessors, with the slow-talking, fast-shooting fighter joining horse-mounted Muslim holy warriors to subdue Soviet armour.

He's the same invincible John J. Rambo that delighted President Ronald Reagan at the time of the TWA hijacking in Beirut in 1985. "After seeing Rambo last night, I know what to do the next time this happens," Reagan joked.

"That's wrong," actor Sylvester Stallone says hotly. "Rambo goes in to end conflicts, not initiate them. He didn't go in to kick the Russians' butts, he went in to get his friends out."

David Morrell, the former Iowa state English professor who created Rambo in the novel *First Blood*, says he also was offended by Reagan's jest. "I can't say I was amused," Morrell said. "Because I was distressed by the interpretation of the character. But I was bemused because it's a way of being told how powerful the character is. So I was gratified by that."

Promote

Rambo: *First Blood Part II* grossed 150 million dollars in US theatres three years ago and made Rambo a part of the language. Reagan's joke was his first public mention of Rambo, but others followed.

Stallone and Morrell, who recently came to New York to promote the film, both say Rambo is a "hard-boiled" anti-jingoistic character, but a celluloid descendant of the

The invincible John J. Rambo, who inspired President Ronald Reagan at the time of the TWA hijacking in Beirut in 1985 ("I know what to do the next time this happens") is back to save the Afghans from the 'red menace'.



Sylvester Stallone as Rambo is tortured in the film *Rambo, First Blood, part II*. He gets his revenge against the Soviet might in his latest film.

frontier gunslinger forced into one last battle.

"I find it incredible," Stallone says, his voice rising, "every time some local atrocity occurs where a man puts a rifle and goes into a shopping centre, it's 'Rambo' who slays three."

"Rambo doesn't kill innocents... he's never killed unarmed children."

"I keep close watch of this, and I know of only six cases in which the Rambo character was blamed for violent events," says Morrell. Three were in the United States, he said, and the others in England, Australia and Canada.

"When I look into these things, what happened was that a 'Rambo' was created with psychological people who were unbalanced. If it hadn't been

one thing, it would have been that their rice krispies (breakfast cereal) didn't snap, crackle and pop properly in the morning."

So what does Rambo stand for? That depends, in part, whether it's the books or the films.

Morrell, who had Rambo criticising US policy in Central America in his book of *Rambo II*, had suggested setting the 63-million-dollar *Rambo* in Nicaragua.

Stallone vetoed that. If Rambo fears anything, it's controversy.

"Until that conflict is really over, or until the line of demarcation is drawn... then I can't jump into that," Stallone said.

Stallone said *First Blood* was "the place where Congress and Reagan agreed on who wore the

black hats.

"You have 300 million Russians vs. 12 million Afghans who are undernourished, underarmed, undertrained and they are holding their own. Finally, after 8 1/2 years they are receiving some assistance," Stallone said.

"But Rambo doesn't go in to fight Russians. When they accuse me or my characters of red-bashing, that is irresponsible, because he never says, 'I'm gonna get that dirty commie.' It never came out of his mouth."

Gee, maybe it was all the exploding Russians in *Rambo II* for the hulking Soviet boxer in *Rocky IV* that gave the impression that Stallone harbours strong feelings about Moscow.

"I used to think I did," he said. "I understood 'glasnost,' and the Soviets' need to do this... I'm all for 'glasnost.' I think

the (Soviet) military branch is totally out of line, and they've made mistakes, and this is their Vietnam."

Perhaps the real villain in Rambo's world is the US government.

In *First Blood*, which became a film in 1982, Rambo wages war against a sheriff who was a decorated hero of the Korean war. The story ends with an innocent American town in flames.

In *Rambo II*, he was stranded in enemy territory by a cynical, lying, high-level bureaucrat who was covering up knowledge of American prisoners in Vietnam.

The worst that can be said of the US embassy official in *Rambo III* is that he's a little brusque.

In the first book, Morrell had this explanation for Rambo's rage: "He had killed a great many people, and he could pretend their deaths were necessary because they were all a part of what was pushing him, making it impossible for someone like him to get along. But he did not totally believe it. He had enjoyed the fight too much."

Hamlet

The Rambo of the books has a Hamlet streak, to kill or not to kill. But Stallone's Rambo won't talk about self-defence or justifiable wars. His audience, he says, doesn't want lectures.

"They know the essence of the character, and they know what he does best and they want to get to it," he says. Stallone is already thinking about "Rambo IV," scouting the globe for a crisis where one mean dude could lend a hand.

"Panama is leading up to a very interesting situation," says Stallone, who regards Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega as the perfect villain.

"Could you cast a better man? Seriously? I mean, he's god-sent — good guy, bad guy, the face, the look, his own private army, the drugs — I mean, the canal itself, the importance, incredible. That's a scenario."

So back to the jungle? "Yeah, go down and teach him how to breakdance," Stallone growls. "Have a little rap session at Noriega's house this weekend."



Potential Democrat flag-wavers (left to right) Cher, Walter Matthau, Jane Fonda.

By Frank Taylor

WITH only three weeks to go before America's presidential primary election season ends with the California contest, Hollywood has so far been oddly quiet.

"Usually, by this stage in the game, the film people are falling over themselves to get in the news by backing one candidate or another," said a Democratic party worker in Los Angeles. The most that Michael Dukakis, Massachusetts governor and Democratic front-runner, has been able to get is a party thrown by Sally Field.

His rival, the Rev Jesse Jackson, lined up Bill Cosby, the comedian, to do a television commercial. But neither event has translated into the expected flow of campaign dollars.

At the start of the primary season, party workers had fully expected that Barbara Streisand would repeat the \$790,000 party she gave at her Malibu mansion for Democratic candidates in the 1986 mid-term election.

Star turn-out expected for US elections

Jane Fonda, a 3rd and her politician husband, Tom Hayden, were looked to for a series of high-profile fund-raising events.

Other stars were expected to turn up in force at the first Jackson and Dukakis forays into California over the past couple of weeks. But the candidates have been disappointed.

Some party workers believe Hollywood feels that it was "burned" by the fiasco of Gary Hart's on-off withdrawal and by Senator Joseph Biden bowing out amid charges of plagiarising speeches by Kinross, the

Labour leader, among others. Both men had garnered strong support among film community Democrats, who appeared to be preparing lavish fund-raising events.

Hayden, when asked what impact Hollywood had had so far on the presidential contest, replied shortly: "None."

If things do get going, the Democratic cause can expect vocal public support from stars such as Walter Matthau, Telly Savalas, Cher, Margo Kidder, Roberta Flack, Teri Garr, Richard Gere and, of course, Streisand and Fonda.

Republican activists in Hollywood have always been more reserved than the Democrats, and the fact that Vice-President Bush appears to have the nomination in the bag seems to have made them all the quieter.

But Bush, like Ronald Reagan before him, knows that he can always rely on both the financial and public support of Gene Autry, the Singing Cowboy, whose shrewd investments have made him one of Hollywood's wealthiest men.

'Little Dorrit' comes to the screen

As many as 70 feature films have now been made of the novels of the 19th century English writer, Charles Dickens. The latest 'Little Dorrit,' a £5 million production, reinforces a long tradition of fine cinematic adaptations of his work.

By Adrian Sibley

THE new film of *Little Dorrit* is a rare and ambitious achievement. Taking one of Charles Dickens's lesser known novels, director and writer Christine Edzard has created six hours of meticulously crafted period cinema, filmed in and around a single studio converted from a derelict warehouse in London's East End, on a comparatively small budget by Hollywood standards.

Edzard's company, Sands Films, run together with her producer-husband Richard Goodwin, is based in Rotherhithe, part of London's newly fashionable docklands area. Four years in the making, *Little Dorrit*, which consists of two complementary films, each lasting three hours, was filmed over a nine-month period using a cast of 250 on a budget of £5 million. Yet the cast list reads like a roll call of the best British acting talent including Sir Alec Guinness, the late Joan Greenwood, Derek Jacobi, Roshan Seth and Cyril Cusack. Charles Dickens needs no introduction. His huge array of characters is a trademark and continual source of fascination.

His classic novels have long transferred to the screen with considerable success. There have been over 70 filmed versions of his work through the history of cinema. The director David Lean once hailed him as "the perfect screenwriter," although Dickens wrote half a century before film-making properly commenced.

Dickens's ability to combine a story with vivid characters and incident, often in satisfactory resolved narratives that are accessible to all, makes his books ripe for the transfer from word to film.

But this peculiarly British novelist's most contemporarily relevant novel "Little Dorrit" — another greater writer, George Bernard Shaw, claimed it alone converted him to socialism — has only been filmed twice before.

Complex

The first time in 1920, was orchestrated by writer/director Sidney Morgan, the second, in 1933, was made in Germany with Anny Ondra in the title role. Neither film is well known. Yet Edzard believes the book is "one of the richest of Dickens's novels and one of the closest to today."

She faced a difficult task in adapting the long and often complex novel, originally serialised for an eager 19th century public. She took the effective and original route of adapting it for the screen by dropping a villain (Blandos) and Arthur Cennam's twin brother, and dividing the film into two parts: "Nobody's Fault" and "Little Dorrit."

This daring division of Dick-

son's book was based on solid reasoning. "Writing the script was a massive task," she explains. "With *Little Dorrit* it was unthinkable for this size of work to have less than two films to be true to Dickens's novel. We would not have had time with just one film."

The first part is Arthur Cennam's story. The well-meaning Cennam, played by Derek Jacobi, returns from China after the death of his father to renounce the family business, closely controlled by his mother (Joan Greenwood) with the assistance of her servant, Flintwiteb (Max Wall).

Working in the family household is Little Dorrit, played by newcomer Sarah Pickering, whom Cennam attempts to assist after discovering that her father, William Dorrit (Alec Guinness), has been held in London's Marshalsea debtors' prison for 25 years. Cennam himself ends up in the prison, after securing the release of "the Father of Marshalsea," when his newlyfound business with inventor Daniel Doyce (Edward Burnham) collapses.

The second part relates the same events through the eyes of Little Dorrit, who travels with her father and family abroad after William's release. She remains firmly in love with Cennam and on discovering his predicament returns to secure his freedom and is finally united with him. The threat of the two films is their slowly growing relationship.

"Little Dorrit" recreates Dickens's epoch with painstaking accuracy. The main large stage was under construction in the summer of 1985. The second stage, principally used for street scenes and exteriors, was especially laid with cobblestones. All of the 250 costumes required for the gigantic cast were made over a two-year period before production commenced, using a staff of 25 to handweave genuine fabrics in the quest to recreate the England of the 1840s.

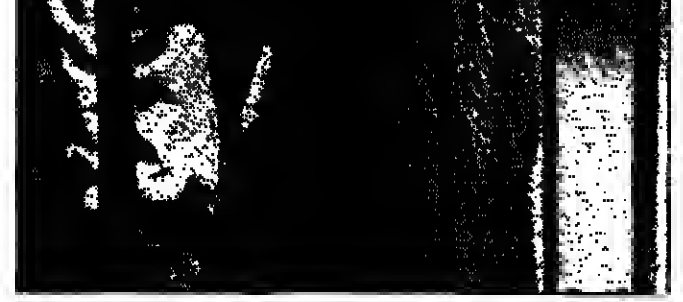
The film took a year to cast, but eventually Edzard and Goodwin, a co-producer of David Lean's "A Passage to India" and various Agatha Christie adaptations, were assisted by some of Britain's finest actors. Alec Guinness's portrayal of the noble and durably spirited William Dorrit marks 40 years as one of Britain's, and the world's, top film actors.

His Dickensian roles came early in his long career with the pre-World War II stage production of "Great Expectations" which inspired David Lean to make a screen version of 1946. The successful partnership of Lean and Guinness continued with "Oliver Twist" in which Guinness played Fagin, and, most recently, "A Passage to India."

His performance is one of quiet skill and control, capturing the heart of a proud man whose 25 years of captivity have not diminished his dignity.

This cottage industry approach to film-making seems to have paid off. The accuracy in recreating the past is coupled with an extremely high standard of performances. Aside from Guinness, Derek Jacobi provides a sturdy backbone to both parts of the film. Miriam Margolyes's babbling Flora, Cennam's childhood sweetheart, and Sarah Pickering's purposeful heroine, Little Dorrit, represent acting of the highest order.

Edzard, backed by the atmospheric music of Verdi, has achieved a startling adaptation which breaks out of the confines of her small London studio. A daunting six hours of Dickens has proved a critical and commercial success allowing its audience to enter and appreciate a long lost world.



Newcomer Sarah Pickering as Little Dorrit in a scene from the film.



Rossellini (right) in *Blue Velvet*, an erotic mystery which received much critical acclaim.

Rossellini seeks acceptance as a serious actress

By Matthew Heller

LOS ANGELES, (Reuters): "People are now talking to me as an actress," says Isabella Rossellini, daughter of the late Ingrid Bergman. "They're not asking, 'what makes you think you can act?'"

Rossellini, who has had to make the difficult transition from a huge successful modelling career and step out from the shadow of her mother, attributes this breakthrough to a role many said would doom her as an actress.

In the erotic mystery *Blue Velvet*, she played nightclub singer Dorothy Vallens who enacts an elaborate sadomasochistic ritual with a psychopath (Dennis Hopper) and makes him strip at knifepoint. In another scene she was shown nude.

Blue Velvet did one great thing for me... it has really given me a reputation as an actress," Rossellini said in a recent interview.

The latest opportunity for Rossellini, one of the world's highest-paid models thanks to her contract with the perfume and cosmetics company Lan-

come, to show how she can act is the film "Zelly and Me".

She plays Zelly, the French governess of a young, orphaned girl who is trying to break free from the overbearing yoke of her grandmother (Glynis Johns). David Lynch, director of *Blue Velvet*, makes his acting debut as Zelly's suitor.

The film is another offbeat choice for Rossellini who has also appeared in the quirky "Tough Guys Don't Dance," the feature film directing debut of author Norman Mailer, and *Siesta*, in which she played the wife of a Spanish trapeze artist.

"Basically, I don't get those mainstream scripts," she said with a shrug. "Maybe I have too European a point of view."

Rossellini, the child of Bergman and Italian film director Roberto Rossellini, whose adulterous affair scandalised Hollywood in the late 1940s, was raised in Europe and her English still carries a strong Italian accent.

She started her acting career in 1976 in *A Matter of Time*, playing a nun who attends the dying Ingrid Bergman character, and got good reviews for the Italian film *The Meadow*



Isabella Rossellini, daughter of the late Ingrid Bergman has had to make a difficult transition from being a model to an actress.

three years later.

Then followed a long acting hiatus that some attributed to respect for her mother, who died in 1982. Rossellini, whose uncanny resemblance to Bergman even extends to the same air of serenity and the throaty laugh, has another explanation.

"I started working in Italy and then came to America," she recalled. "They told me I was a foreigner and Ingrid Bergman's daughter and everything was wrong for me to make it as an actress."

In the meantime, Rossellini, who settled in New York, was busy making her face famous through her Lancome contract. But acting opportunity in

America finally arrived with the 1985 film *White Nights*. Her performance as the Russian wife of an American defector to the Soviet Union prompted one critic to describe her as a "gorgeous non-actress."

Rossellini admitted the film was basically a vehicle for the talents of dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov.

She said she was most proud of her work in *Blue Velvet* and *Zelly and Me* because she understood the characters.

"My character in *Blue Velvet* is so emotionally stressed and disturbed that she inflicts pain on herself. This film (*Zelly and Me*) tells the story of how when you are emotionally disturbed and lose love for yourself, you

can start punishing yourself.

"What I like is not so much neurosis but directors who have a very strong opinion and style," she said. "When I read the script for *Zelly*, I said, 'my god, this girl I writer-director Tina Rathbone) has guts.'"

Rossellini added that whom she works with on a film counts for far more than commercial success. *Tough Guys Don't Dance* and *Siesta* had little box-office impact.

"I loved the film (*Tough Guys*)" she said. "Ten years from now, I can look back and say I made a film with Norman Mailer... in the long run, you can't go wrong if you work with people who have incredible talent."

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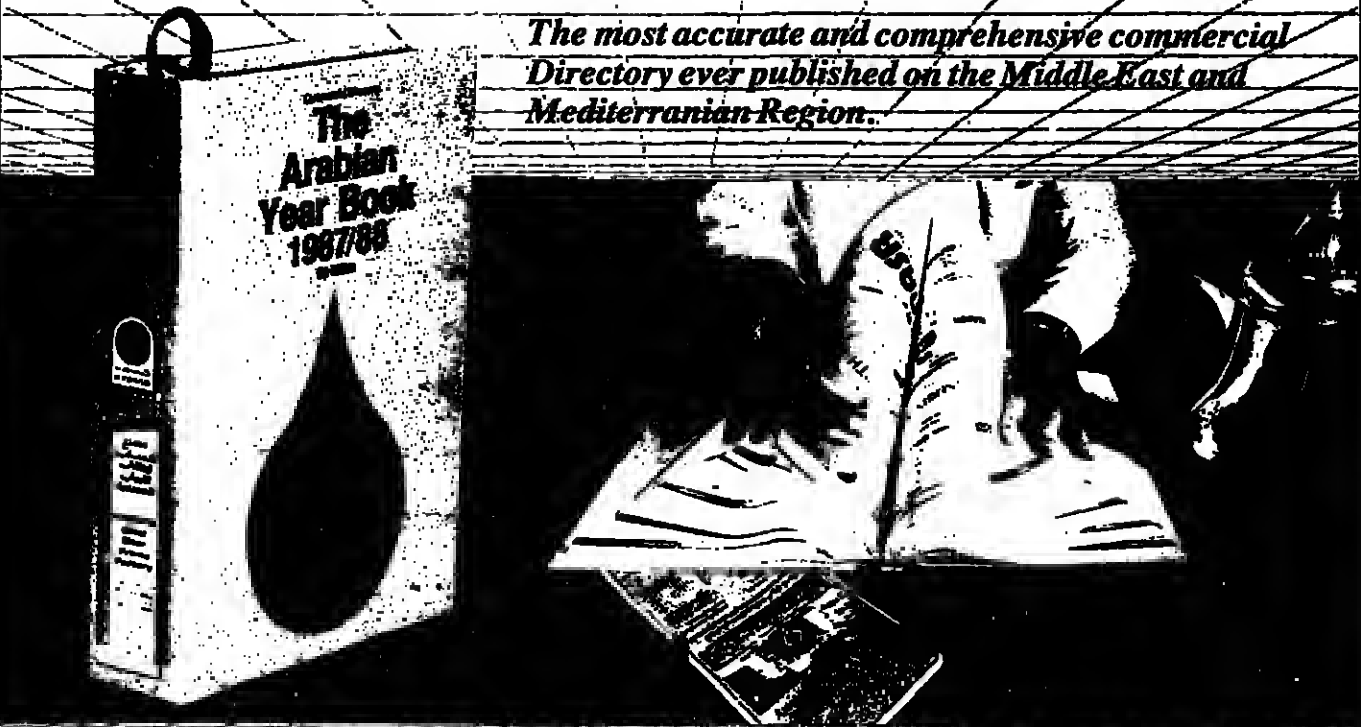
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PIRATES TAKE BRAVES TO TASK

Davis takes Astros past Cardinals

NEW YORK, May 31, (AP)—Scott Terry's pitch was good. Glenn Davis didn't care and wasn't bothered.

Davis opened the eighth inning with his 11th homer of the season, breaking a 4-4 tie and leading the Houston Astros to a 5-4 victory last night over the St. Louis Cardinals.

"I didn't think anyone could hit that pitch out," Terry said. "Ninety-five per cent of the time that's a good pitch."

Davis agreed that Terry, 2-3, had not made a mistake. "It was a pretty good pitch, but I hit it pretty good," Davis said.

Davis is tied for third in the National League in homers. He has 40 runs batted in, second-most in the NL behind Barry Bonilla of Pittsburgh.

Jim Deshaies, 4-2, won his third straight, allowing five hits in eight innings. Dave Smith pitched a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

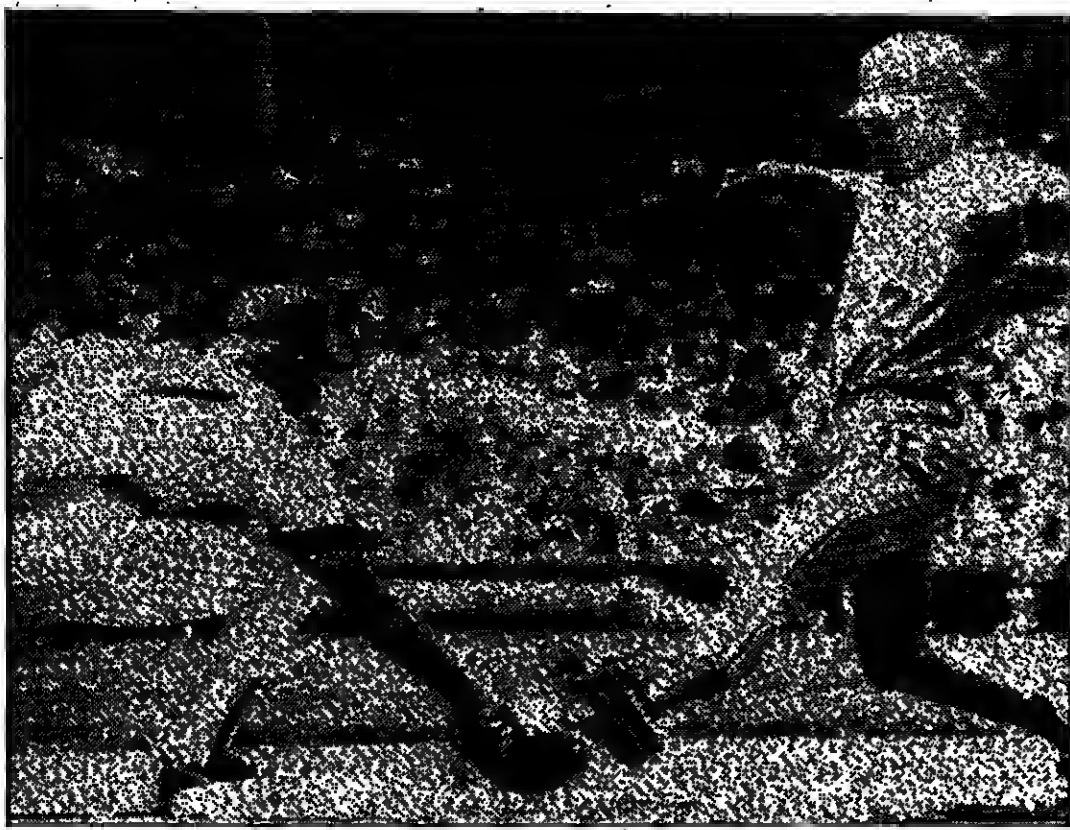
Jose Oquendo hit a three-run homer, his third in 984 career at-bats.

Pirates 14, Braves 2
Pitcher Doug Drabek tripled home a pair of runs in a six-run fifth inning and allowed eight hits over eight innings.

Drabek, 5-3, walked none and struck out two before Barry Jones pitched the ninth. Pete Smith, 1-5, lost his fourth straight.

Cubs 12, Reds 3
Emergency starter Les Lancaster pitched his first Major League complete game and Ryne Sandberg's three-run homer highlighted a six-run second inning.

Lancaster, 3-4, started because of injuries to Rick Sut-



Red's Dave Collins (right) manages to avoid a tag by Cubs' first baseman Mark Grace. (Reuter wirephoto)

cliffe, Al Nipper, Boh Tewksbury and Scott Sanderson. Lancaster allowed 11 hits, walked one and struck out four in his seventh Major League start.

Phillies 7, Padres 3
Juan Samuel had three hits and drove in three runs and the Philadelphia Phillies rallied for four runs in the sixth inning to win their fourth straight.

Shane Rawley, 4-5, allowed seven hits, struck out eight and

walked five in pitching his second complete game of the season.

Expos 2, Giants 2
Tim Lincecum hit a two-run, two-out single off Al Leiter in the ninth inning to send San Francisco to its fourth straight loss.

Angels 3, Mariners 3-0, pitched an inning of perfect relief for the victory.

Astros 5, Cardinals 4
Glenn Davis broke a tie with an

eighth-inning homer and Jim Deshaies allowed five hits in eight innings.

Deshaies, 4-2, won his third straight. Dave Smith pitched a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Mets 3, Dodgers 2
Ron Darling allowed six hits in 8 2-3 innings in a rain-delayed game between division leaders.

Darling, 6-3, struck out nine and walked two. Randy Myers got the final out for his eighth

save. John Shelby hit an RBI double in the fourth and homered in the ninth to extend his hitting streak to 15 games.

Indians 4, Royals 1
Another pitcher from Texas, Cleveland's Greg Swindell, held Kansas City hitless for 6 2-3 innings and became the Major League's first 10-game winner. Swindell, 10-1, walked the game's first batter, Kurt Stillwell, and then retired the next 20 batters before Danny Tartabull singled with two outs in the seventh and scored on singles by Kevin Seitzer and Bo Jackson.

Athletics 3, Yankees 2
Dave Henderson led off the bottom of the 14th with his sixth home run of the season, giving Oakland its sixth consecutive victory. Henderson connected off Steve Shields, 0-2, after the fourth New York pitcher had worked three perfect innings. Dennis Eckersley, 1-1, Oakland's fifth pitcher, went two innings for the victory.

Rangers 6, Twins 1
Jeff Russell, 4-0, allowed six hits in eight innings and Larry Parrish hit a two-run double as Texas ended Minnesota's eight-game winning streak. Bert Blyleven, 3-5, lasted 4 1-3 innings but struck out five to move past Phil Niekro into seventh place on the all-time list with 3,343.

American League	National League
Cleveland 4	Kansas City 1
Texas 6	Minnesota 1
Milwaukee 4	Toronto 1
Oakland 3	New York 2
Boston 5	California 2
Seattle 4	Baltimore 1
Pittsburgh 14	Atlanta 2
Chicago 12	Cincinnati 3
Montreal 7	San Francisco 2
Philadelphia 3	San Diego 2
New York 3	Los Angeles 2
Houston 5	St. Louis 4



Bird (left) beats Pistons' Dennis Rudman to the ball. (Reuter wirephoto)

Celtics edge Pistons to level NBA series

PONTIAC, Mich., May 31, (Reuter)—The Boston Celtics won a physical, defensive battle from the Detroit Pistons 79-78 yesterday to level their best-of-seven National Basketball Association Eastern Conference final series at two games each.

The victory ended a nine-game Celtics losing streak at the Pontiac Silverdome. The series now shifts back to Boston Garden for game five tomorrow night.

Closing
In typical Celtics fashion, the see-saw battle was decided in the closing seconds.

With the score at 78-78, Boston guard Dennis Johnson was fouled by Pistons star Isiah Thomas. Johnson hit one of two free throws to give Boston a one-point lead with just eight seconds left.

With the Detroit fans on their feet cheering wildly, and the final seconds ticking off, Pistons guard

Joe Dumars missed a jump shot that would have won the game.

Detroit centre Bill Laimbeer led all scorers with 29 points. Larry Bird paced the Boston attack with 20 points and Johnson added 18.

The Pistons had trouble putting the ball through the hoop in the early going as they missed 17 straight shots to end the first quarter. But tenacious defence kept Boston off balance and Detroit were down by only six points, 16-10, after the shockingly low-scoring first period.

Scoring woes continued for both teams through the second quarter and Boston led 46-36 at the half.

Spurred on by the enthusiastic Detroit crowd, the Pistons came out firing in the third quarter, outscoring Boston, 19-6, at one stretch to take the lead 53-52 for the first time. Detroit outscored Boston by 18 points in the third quarter to take an eight-point lead into the final quarter.

LOCAL CRICKET

Scorpion overcome Summerset

SCORPION Cricket Club opened their bid for the Amar Summer Trophy with a 15-run victory over Summerset Cricket Club at the Yarmouk ground on Friday.

Scorpion, batting first, scored 155 for the loss of three wickets while Summerset managed only 140 for the loss of eight wickets in reply.

Support
The highlight of the Scorpion batting was a brilliant innings of 76 by Chuliam Haider. He hit a six and eight fours. He was given some good support by Mustafa who completed his half century in the last over of Scorpion's innings. Mustafa's 52 was scored with the help of five fours.

Schy Rocha took two wickets for Summerset, requiring over seven runs per over for victory.



Haider: scored 76

went for the target from the start and threw away their wickets in the process.

Schy 27, Umar 26, Majid 21 and Shakeel 20 were the only batsmen to play well as Summerset fell short of their target by 15 runs.

For Scorpion, Musleh and Sarfraz shared the bowling honours with two wickets each. Waheed and Tariq chipped in with one wicket apiece. Mustafa fielded brilliantly, taking two catches and having a hand in a run-out.

Berger only real challenger to McLarens

MEXICO CITY, May 31, (Reuter)—Austrian Gerhard Berger left the Mexico Grand Prix behind him wondering just what was needed to stop the all-conquering McLarens of Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna from turning the World Championship into a private duel.

The Ferrari driver, who performed brilliantly on the limit to take third place behind Frenchman Prost and Brazilian Senna in Sunday's race, firmly established himself as the fastest challenger to the Honda turbo-powered McLarens.

But he admitted he had little chance of catching them.

He said: "I tried very hard and really charged after Senna, but tyre wear slowed me down and I had to give up the chase. We are nearly as fast as the McLarens, but not quite and that little difference means a lot in a Grand Prix."

Prost won the race with another superb lights-to-flag drive which demonstrated all his cool driving skills. It was his 31st Grand Prix victory and lifted him 15 points clear of Berger in the race for the drivers' title.

Berger, in his second season with Ferrari after moving from Benetton in 1986, may be full of admiration for the French "Professor," as Prost is known, but he has also built up an army of admirers of his own.

Procession
Britain's James Hunt, the 1976 world champion, said after Sunday's dull procession of a race that Berger was the only real hint of excitement at the moment.

He is clearly Ferrari's leading driver and has now ousted Italian Michele Alboreto in the hearts of the Italian fans as the most exciting racer on the grid.

"He is a brilliant and aggressive driver," said Hunt. "I am sure he will win races for Ferrari if they can provide a car which closes the gap on the McLarens."

The ever-growing gulf between the McLarens, who have won all four races this season — Prost taking three and Senna one — is already turning the World Championship into a three-category event.

The first is the private duel between Prost, chasing a third world title, and Senna, the young pretender.

The second is the fight for points behind them among the other turbo-charged cars, with Ferraris, Arrows and Lotus leading the way, and the third is the normally aspirated section in which the Benetons seem to have established themselves as superior to the Williams.

Games qualifier

MONTEVIDEO, May 31, (Reuter)—Brazil and Puerto Rico qualified for the Seoul Olympic men's basketball competition when they won their semifinal matches in the Americas qualifying tournament on Sunday.

They will be joined in Seoul by the winners of the third-place playoff between Canada and Uruguay.

Results:
Puerto Rico 62 Canada 60 (33-33)
Brazil 90 Uruguay 83 (47-35)

Crowe hits second successive ton

LONDON, May 31, (Reuter)—New Zealand Test batsman Martin Crowe struck his second successive century in the English County Cricket Championship with an unbeaten 136 for Somerset against Lancashire at Old Trafford yesterday.

Crowe, who had scored 132 against Worcestershire, hit a six and 19 fours in his 209-minute innings before Somerset captain Vic Marks declared at 273 for five. Somerset were 25 for the loss.

Suspected
Dennis Lillee, Northamptonshire's Australian fast bowler, was carried off with suspected damaged ankle ligaments after slipping in the field against Leicestershire at Northampton.

Northamptonshire suffered a second injury blow when Alan Walker was forced to go off with a thigh injury after taking three for 40.

But Leicestershire were dismissed for 143 with David Capel claiming four for 40 and had to follow on. They finished the day at 117 for two in their second innings, still 67 runs adrift.

Chris Smith, South African-born former England Test batsman, steadied Hampshire with a stubborn unbeaten 72 after



Crowe: slammed an unbeaten 136

Yorkshire had claimed a first innings lead of 109 and taken three second innings wickets for 31 at Middlesbrough.

Hampshire were 129 for four

at the close.
Derbyshire pacemen Ole Mortensen and Devon Malcolm claimed three wickets apiece as Nottinghamshire slumped from

an overnight 124 for four to 184 all out with Dane Mortensen finishing with an innings analysis of five for 24.

Notts, 41 ahead on first innings, had Derbyshire struggling at 32 for three but Peter Bowler halted the slide with a patient undefeated 61 as his side ended the day at 122 without further loss.

Rain ruled out play in the matches between Essex and Surrey, Lancashire and Gloucestershire, and Middlesex and Sussex.

Scores

At Middlesbrough: Hampshire 130 in 62.2 overs and 129 for four (C. Smith 72 not out). Yorkshire 239 in 89.5 overs (P. Carrick 46 not out, M. Moxon 40).

At Derby: Derbyshire 143 in 52.2 overs and 122 for three (P. Bowler 61 not out). Nottinghamshire 184 in 74.2 overs (D. Mortensen five for 24).

At Old Trafford: Lancashire 329 for nine declared in 110 overs (V. Marks five for 91) and 25 for two. Somerset 273 for five declared in 91 overs (M. Crowe 136 not out, J. Wyatt 47).

At Northampton: Northamptonshire 327 for eight declared in 110 overs. Leicestershire 143 in 52 overs (D. Capel four for 40) and 117 for two.

WBC champion

LAS VEGAS, May 31, (Reuter)—World Boxing Council (WBC) middleweight champion Thomas Hearns remains a solid favourite to successfully defend his title against hard-hitting fellow American Iran Barkley on June 6, according to Las Vegas odds-makers.

Hearns, the only person to win world titles in four different weight divisions, opened as a 4-1/2-1 selection of the odds-makers.

Cauthen tipped to win Epsom Derby

EPSOM, England, May 31, (Reuter)—Backers looked heavenwards today and stumped for champion jockey Steve Cauthen in tomorrow's Epsom Derby.

Although the ground is at present described by track officials as good to firm, more showers today following yesterday's rain meant the going would probably be on the easy side for the great 12 furlong spectacular.

Cauthen's mount, Unfuwain,

has already won over the course and distance in good to soft ground, and that prompted more money from backers at book-makers who had quoted the colt at 9-2.

Best price available all round was 4-1 against a horse with an unattractive name in its anglicised form (although it means pride and dignity) but a handsome pedigree, being a son of Northern Dancer.

Unfuwain is one of four run-

ners in the 14-strong field announced today belonging to Hamdan Al Maktoum, a member of a UAE family which has played such a prominent role on the British turf in recent years.

Pace-maker Al Maktoum was quoted at 500-1 while Maktoum, also apparently outclassed, was put in at 250-1 but Al Murti, at \$1.2 million the most expensive purchase in the field, was not totally friendless in betting exchanges at 20-1.

Saleem helps Bright Stars capture Union Trophy

BRIGHT STARS scored a two-wicket victory over hosts Union Cricket Club to clinch the Union League Trophy after a well-contested final at the Fahaeel Industrial Area grounds on Friday.

Bright Stars, set to score 156 runs for victory, got the required runs for the loss of eight wickets with six overs to spare.

Pushed
Bright Stars had started their innings on a disastrous note, losing Khalid for one. Aslam and Asghar pushed the score to 46 before the latter was caught off Aqueel for 13.

After Aslam's departure, for a solid 29, only Mervyn (35) put up a fight as Bright Stars started losing regular wickets and at one stage were in trouble at 113 for the loss of seven wickets.

Skipper Saleem Anwar then lifted his team out of the doldrums by taking the fight to the opposition. He hit all loose deliveries and took quick singles and scored 42 before he was out.

With Saleem taking his team close to the target, it was only a matter of time before Saleem and Arshad scored the winning runs to give their team the third trophy of the season.

Earlier, on, Union started



The Bright Stars squad with their prizes.

their innings on a good note with their openers putting on 25 runs before Saeed was run out for five.

The next batsmen, Shahzad and Farrakh, pushed the score to 59. Farrakh was out after a solid innings of 31, caught by Khalid off Mervyn.

Shahzad, who had been playing well, was the next batsman to lose his wicket. He was bowled by Robin for 32.

The middle-order batsmen then found themselves all at sea

against some accurate bowling from Robin, Mervyn and Arshad, supported by some excellent fielding.

Mahboob was out for six. Jameel (13), Aqueel (0) Abid (0) and Azam (18) to leave Union tottering at 115 for the loss of eight wickets off 27 overs.

Khadim, Ghazanfar and Arshad then put up some resistance, scoring 40 runs off the last five overs to give their team a chance of turning the tables of

Bright Stars.

The bowling honours of Bright Stars were shared by Arshad who took three wickets and Robin, Mervyn and Saleem Anwar with two each.

After the match the chief guest, Mirza Amanullah, presented the trophy to Bright Stars skipper Saleem Anwar.

Saleem was also given the Man of the Match award for his all-round performance. Azam and Salim umpired the match.



Saleem (left) receives the trophy.

ATHLETICS

Joyner-Kersee to concentrate on heptathlon

SAN JOSE, Calif., May 31, (Reuter)—Jackie Joyner-Kersee knows it's time to start putting the package together again.

In this week, in the hours before the top collegians in the United States meet in their National Championships at Eugene, Oregon, Joyner-Kersee will concentrate on the least glamorous heptathlon disciplines as she begins preparations for the Seoul Olympics and a summer assault on her world record of 7,158 points.

"I'm going to work on my distance event," Joyner-Kersee said in a joking reference to the 800 metres, the heptathlon events in which she sees the greatest margin for improvement.

In last year's World Championships, 10 of the 18 finishers posted faster times over 800 metres than Joyner-Kersee, the exhausted overall winner.

Her husband and coach, Bob Kersee, believes she can score 7,400 points this year, but Joyner-Kersee has a more realistic goal of 7,230.

Practices
The week ahead will give some indication of where she stands as she practices her throws in the shot and javelin and works on her best event — the long jump.

There will be workouts in the 100-metre hurdles. Joyner-Kersee already has proven what she can do in that event this year.

Twice this month she either broke or tied the American record as she and training partner Gail Devers brought the United States a bit more respectability in the race.

Before this season, the US record was a paltry 12.79 seconds, light years from the world mark of 12.25 seconds by Bulgaria's Ginka Zagorcheva.

But last Saturday in the Grand Prix meet in San Jose, Joyner-Kersee skinned over the barriers in 12.61 seconds to tie Devers' week-old US record.

"She got out very well but she floated a little bit in the middle and she didn't run off the last hurdle, but the early part was very good," coach Kersee said in a quick analysis.

Joyner-Kersee called her efforts over the concluding three hurdles "sloppy."

But the showing was good enough that Joyner-Kersee said she now believes a time of 12.45 seconds is possible for her in the event. That would put her among the world's best.

Likely
She already has claimed that honour in the long jump, equalling East German Heike Drechsler's world record of 7.45 metres at the Pan American Games in Indianapolis last year.

She will take a break from training on June 25 to long jump at San Diego, and will likely throw the shot and javelin in a few all-comers meetings.

But Joyner-Kersee's primary emphasis for the next month will be to prepare for the July 15-23 US Olympic trials in Indianapolis, where she hopes to make the team in both the heptathlon and long jump.

"We've started her training later this year because the Olympics are late," Kersee said. "But I think she's on schedule now."

Johnson out until August with injury

TORONTO, May 31, (Reuter)—The injury to Ben Johnson's leg is more serious than originally believed and will keep the world's fastest man out of action until six weeks before the Olympics, a Canadian athletics spokeswoman said yesterday.

Johnson, the 100-metre world record holder, is not expected to return to competition until the Canadian Athletics Championships beginning August 5, Canadian Track and Field Association spokeswoman Brenda Bedard said.

Suffered
"They originally thought it was a muscle problem," said Bedard, of the injury Johnson suffered in a race earlier this year in Tokyo.

It turned out, however, that Johnson injured a tendon in his left leg, Bedard said.

"With any athlete other than a sprinter it wouldn't be that serious," she said.

Johnson was to have competed in six races in Europe next month, including a June 27 showdown in Paris against American Carl Lewis, which was to be the first of three pre-Olympic races between the world's two premier sprinters.

Non-title fight

HOUSTON, May 31, (UPI)—Frank Tate, the International Boxing Federation's Middleweight champion, yesterday scored a unanimous decision over Sanderline Williams in a non-title bout.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

YRC tourney

THE semifinals of the YRC Football Tournament will be held on June 3, 1988, at the Sour Ground as follows: 6.15 am Saltet United Vs. Rising Stars and 7.45 am Goa Maroons Vs. Incredible Sports Club.

Nacional win

MONTEVIDEO, May 31, (Reuters): Nacional of Uruguay beat Brazil's Cruzeiro 3-2 (half-time 1-0) in the first leg of their South American Supercup semifinal yesterday.

Crowd trouble

GENEVA, May 31, (Reuters): Crowd trouble during the first leg of the European Under-21 Soccer Championship final in Athens a week ago will be investigated by the European Football Union's (UEFA) disciplinary committee.

Milk race

BOURNEMOUTH, England, May 31, (AP): French cyclist Philippe Casado won the first stage of the Milk race yesterday to take the overall lead by two seconds. On the opening day of the round-Britain race he led in a strung-out bunch to win a sprint finish to a 116-mile (186 kms) first leg ahead of Soviet Ivan Ivanov.

Swim meet

BOCA RATON, Florida, May 31, (UPI): Janelle Elford won the 800-metre freestyle yesterday, leading the Australian Olympic team to victory in the Sundown to Seoul international swim meet.

Argentine star

MADRID, May 31, (Reuters): Argentine international forward Jorge Valdano said today he was giving up playing soccer to become part of the coaching team at Spanish League champions Real Madrid.

TV rights

LONDON, May 31, (UPI): The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) announced here yesterday it has signed an agreement with Nippon Television Corporation to be the exclusive host broadcaster of the 1991 World Track and Field Championships which will be held in Tokyo from August 24-Sept 1. Nippon also has exclusive Japanese TV rights for the World Athletic Series 1988-1991.

England games

BONN, May 31, (Reuters): The sale of tickets for England games during the European Soccer Championship finals will be banned on match days in a bid to avoid crowd trouble, the organising committee said today.

Soviet squad

MOSCOW, May 31, (Reuters): Igor Dobrovolsky, the young attacking midfielder from Moscow Dynamo, has been unexpectedly dropped from the final 20-man Soviet squad for the European Soccer Championships in West Germany.

PROVIS EDGES PAST SANCHEZ

Sabatini to meet Graf in semifinals

PARIS, May 31, (Reuters): Gabriela Sabatini capitalised on a brief break of dry weather today — though storms of a different nature continued on-court — to join defending champion Steffi Graf in the semifinals of the French Open.

The 18-year-old Argentine completed a 4-6 6-1 6-3 victory over Canadian number one Helen Klesi in a delayed quarter-final match which ended on a controversial note following a disputed line call shortly before rain returned to Roland Garros.

Appeared

Serving at 3-5 and 40-40 in the final set, the Canadian hit a forehand which appeared to land just outside the baseline but the rally continued when the linesman signalled the ball was good. Klesi, runner up to Sabatini in the Italian Open four weeks ago, won the point and prepared to serve. But the Argentine issued an immediate appeal and the linesman finally altered his decision after inspecting the bounce mark on the clay.

The umpire awarded the point to Sabatini, who was leading 2-1 in the third set when rain halted play yesterday evening, and it was then the Canadian's turn to fume.

Her prolonged and vociferous protestations were only brought

to an end by the combined efforts of the umpire, a representative of the tournament referee, and a Women's International Tennis Association (WITA) official.

Visibly upset, Klesi finally continued the match after her counter-appeal that the point be played again was dismissed and she promptly missed an easy forehand to send Sabatini into Thursday's semifinals where she meets Graf.

Between further breaks in the rain, Nicole Provis became the first Australian women's semifinalist since Dianne Bales-trat in 1980 when she beat Arantxa Sanchez of Spain 7-5 3-6 6-4 in a clash of unseeded teenagers on the centre court.

Finally, 24 hours late, the big boys came out to play. With the 16,500 capacity centre court seething with anticipation Ivan Lendl climbed into the ring to continue his defence of the title against John McEnroe, the long-awaited rematch of their classic 1984 Roland Garros encounter which the Czechoslovak won in five sets.

Before the first ball had been struck in anger, Lendl raised laughter during the knock up by hitting one volley with his racket behind his back.

The spectators hooted their approval. McEnroe's face

showed he thought it was a cheap shot, and the American discourteously sent a dainty lob over Lendl's head to land plumb on the baseline.

McEnroe, obviously deciding that was enough for the day, drew umpire Richard Kaufman's attention to the drizzle which had been falling, said "you can't play in front of umbrellas," and moodily stared at the heavens.

Kaufman boomed "play", and McEnroe blasted in a first serve, wrong-footed Lendl with a deft backhand volley, and punched away the champion's weak reply with arrogant non-chalance.

McEnroe won the first game with some panache, Lendl won the second despite opening with a double fault, and at 15-15 in the third McEnroe again approached Kaufman to see what the umpire could do about the rain.

Halt

Kaufman called a tournament official, he called chief umpire Jacques Dorfmann, and he finally called a halt after 17 minutes — four of which had been spent in conference.

On the evidence of what little had been seen, McEnroe's supporters were the ones wearing grins as the players disappeared.



McEnroe eyes the ball during his match. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets stun Indians

Pakistan brush aside Britain

IPOH, Malaysia, May 31, (Reuters): The Soviet Union fought back with two quick goals to beat India 2-1 on the second day of a six-nation men's hockey tournament on Tuesday.

The Soviets became the first team to qualify for the semifinals from Group A after holding Asian Games champions South Korea 1-1 in the opening match on Monday.

In Group B, Olympic champions Pakistan thrashed Britain

4-0 and look set to top the group. They need only a draw against Malaysia tomorrow to reach the semifinals.

Forced

Soviet team manager Mikhail Osintsev said: "We knew the Indians would have certain moves ready after having watched us playing against the Koreans and the best way was to upset the rhythm and to clamp on them quickly and aggressively so that they could not have any

time to think."

After a goalless first half, India took the lead in the 41st minute through a penalty from Balvinder Singh.

The Russians forced the qualifier in the 49th minute thanks to Atanov Igor and Sergei Pleshakov scored the winner seven minutes later.

Pakistan coach Mudassar Asghar was not happy with his players despite their victory

Cup campaign

GLASGOW, May 31, (Reuters): The Scottish Football League yesterday threw their full weight behind Scotland's attempt to qualify for the 1990 World Cup finals.

In an unprecedented move, the League agreed at their annual meeting to postpone fixtures on four Saturdays before vital World Cup qualifying ties next season.

League secretary Jim Farry said: "Since the Premier Division has been reduced from 12 to 10 clubs, we had less fixtures to schedule and it was no problem to move those Saturday matches to midweek dates."

Europeans prepare for soccer finals

LONDON, May 31, (Agencies): Denmark, Ireland, Spain and the Netherlands play friendly soccer matches tomorrow as their build-up for the European Soccer Championship enters its final phase.

Danish manager Sepp Piontek plans to use his match against Czechoslovakia as an important fitness test for the players he has lined up for the finals while Spain hope to overcome recent indifferent performance and gain a morale-boosting win against Sweden.

Practice

On-form Ireland, meanwhile, expect another warm-up victory ahead of the finals when they meet Norway while the Netherlands' Marco van Basten, who returned to the Dutch team for a practice match last weekend after recovering from injury, looks likely to be omitted from the side for tomorrow's match against Romania.

Coach Rinus Michels pulled him off at the end of the first half of the practice against an Ajax Amsterdam side and indicated afterwards he was not happy with Van Basten's performance on the left wing.

The Romania match is the last major test for the Dutch before they leave for the European Championship in West Germany.

Lacking strong left and right backs, Michels also sees a key defensive role for his wing strikers. But Van Basten failed to fulfil that role.

"I can understand Marco wants to regain his rhythm in the front line particularly, but that's not the mentality I expect from my players," Michels said.

The 60-year-old coach is now expected to field Ajax captain John van 't Schip on the left, with Ruud Gullit and Ajax's John Bosman in the centre and PSV's Gerald Vanenburg on the right.

Ireland's manager Jack Charlton, preparing his side for their first appearance in the finals of a major international competition, will look particularly to

newcomer David Kelly to extend their run of eight wins.

Kelly produced a hat-trick to help his club Walsall win promotion to the English Second Division with a 4-0 victory over Bristol City yesterday.

Ireland, have been hit by a spate of injuries but still beat Poland 3-1 in a friendly in Dublin 10 days ago.

Denmark, with seven experienced men on the recovery list, suffered a further blow on Sunday when midfielder Per Frimann, included in the European squad, went down with a groin injury.

Frimann told reporters he expected to be back for the June 3 friendly against Belgium in Odense, the Danes' last fixture before the finals.

Piontek, who watched his largely experimental side lose 1-0 to Austria in Vienna, was philosophical. "Only 11 men play at one time and I can live with one or two injuries," he said.

"On Wednesday I will use my ideal line-up as far as possible but there is no guarantee they will all be ready," he added. "There won't be any guarantee of that in West Germany either."

Spanish coach Miguel Munoz will field the side expected to play the first match in Spain's campaign for the European title — against Denmark — and created largely from League kings Real Madrid.

Members

Barcelona's goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta and midfielder Victor Munoz, defender Tomas Remones of Atletico and second top League scorer Jose Bakero of Real Sociedad will supplement seven members of the Real team.

But the Real players have failed to reproduce their stunning League form in international matches and Spain have lost two friendlies and drawn two.

Munoz, conscious of the side's lack of spark, gave them a two-hour lecture on offensive and defensive tactics yesterday.

Sulayem out of Greece rally

ATHENS, Greece: Middle East champion Mohammed Bio Sulayem (UAE) only completed two special stages of the Acropolis Rally, scene of his World Rally Championship debut.

The Marlboro driver and navigator Ronan Morgan from Ireland had to retire following reoccurring electrical problems with their Ford Sierra Cosworth in the opening stage of the second leg of the Greek classic yesterday.

Meanwhile, Italian driver Massimo Biasion, piloting a Lancia Delta Integrale, clung to a narrow lead today as the 1,775-kilometre rally approached the half-way point.

After 15 out of 32 special

stages in the four-day contest, Biasion had racked up 2 hours 46 minutes 18 seconds in penalty points, just ahead of Lancia team-mate Mikael Ericsson of Sweden with 2:46:51.

Finland's Juha Kankkunen, at the wheel of a Toyota Celica 2000, dropped to third place with 2:47:21, followed by Alex Fiorio of Italy in another Lancia with 2:50:15.

Veteran Finnish driver Markku Alen, also in a Lancia Delta Integrale, held fifth place with 2:50:35. Austria's Rudolf Stohl stayed in sixth place with 2:59:40.

Eighty-four out of 102 drivers who set off from the base of the Acropolis hill in central Athens on Sunday were still in the contest after the 15th special stage.

Player disqualified while in toilet

PORTRICAWL, Wales, May 31, (AP): A visit to the men's room meant a 3,000-mile wasted journey for American Fred Rowland at the British Amateur Golf Championship yesterday.

The 49-year-old amateur from Kansas went to the toilet just as he was called to the first tee. And when he failed to appear, he was disqualified from the tournament on what would have been his first appearance.

Called

"I had been practicing and went to the toilet before going out. But then I heard my name being called," Rowland said.

His playing partners already had teed off and Rowland was ruled out of time.

'Cats' practice for powerboat race

By Gail Seery

THREE of the four catamarans currently in Kuwait for Friday's 2nd Bi-annual Offshore Powerboat race were out practising yesterday afternoon, along with the oldest boat in the race, a Bertram 'V' driven by Ahmed Al Hassan. Abdullah Al Sha'ali and Khalid Bakhit of Dubai were testing their Tigercats, and Misha'al Al Jarallah was out driving his Cougar under the watchful eye of Grant Wilson of the Cougar company who has flown to Kuwait to watch the race. The waves were around 2-3ft, and conditions were clearly straight-forward for these boats.

I was out to see the Cougar put through its paces, a treat Misha'al Al Jarallah had been promising me since the boat arrived last week. It was exhilarating to see the racing boats fly through the waves, churning up the sea behind them. It was my first time on a powerboat of any description, and I could see that the three cats ahead of us were very special boats indeed.

Difference

Then Khalid and Hamid Bakhit drew alongside in their Tiger-cat. "Dubai. When we met a few days ago I had joked about my inexperience of this sport, and remarked that I could just about tell the difference between a powerboat and a fire engine. I was discussing the sea conditions with Bakhit, and he told me that the waves for the Dubai race had been three or four times as high. "Then you're crazy," I told him. "And you?" "Oh yes, I'm crazy," I agreed, surprised that there was

anyone left who didn't know that.

"OK I'll take you out now," he said. With typical forethought and planning, I was wearing clothes as near as I ever get to tidy, and a full skirted dress is not the best attire for hopping from one boat to another at sea.

Nevertheless with the prompting of my companions I agreed. Wael Khoury the organiser for the race evidently thought this was a very serious mistake. "Stop and think about this Gail," he warned, but it was too late; I was already on my way up the prow of Bakhit's boat.

The boat is a two seater, and therefore wasn't entirely able to take a passenger. I sat at Bakhit's side, while his brother and throttleman Hamid perched in the back.

Special

"We'll take it slow," said Khalid, though by this time I wasn't terribly concerned about that. However, he was forced to take it very easy indeed as it was impossible to go fast without someone operating the throttle controls, and Hamid was continually being buffeted away from the controls by the force of our impact with the waves. Nevertheless, they gave me a pretty good show, and just as in my first experience of rallies, I could understand why they wanted to do this sport and why it so obviously becomes a compulsion for the drivers.

But my introduction to powerboat racing wasn't over. Khalid obligingly explained the various special features and dials on his boat, and stressed the importance of the throttleman, and how the boat has to be suited to

the particular sea conditions in order to perform at its best. Clearly there is a lot more to this sport than climbing onto a boat, switching on the engine and burning up the water.

First he explained the dials, then the levers, and the safety devices. One of these is the kill switch which the driver attaches himself to by a line. This means that if he is carried overboard, the engines will stop. The driver can also raise or lower his engines in the water to give the boat more or less lift, stability and speed. The higher the engines, the faster and less stable the boat will be. Bakhit has standard engines but has performed a few modifications to make it more like the 2.4 engines being driven by Misha'al Al Jarallah, Abdullah Al Sha'ali and others in this race.

Bakhit said that Abdullah Al Sha'ali has a good chance of winning the race, and added that this could be a good thing for the Kuwait race as the Kuwaiti drivers will not like being beaten on home ground, and will spend the time and money to prepare their boats so that next time they can take revenge. This will make the next Kuwait offshore powerboat race a bigger event.

Developed

Bakhit's boat was damaged recently, and he still has to fit a new compass before the race on Friday. Nevertheless he had experienced few problems during the test run.

Abdullah Al Sha'ali intends to put up some tough competition in this race. He is driving a self built and modified 28' Tigercat. He developed this boat and the engines to suit his own driving

style and the conditions he has found elsewhere in the Gulf. "I am hoping for a win," he said, but added, "Everybody here hopes that he will win."

Sha'ali, a lawyer by profession, competed in the first ever Dubai offshore powerboat race in 1986, and was the first ever winner of the event. "Like the Kuwait event, we started small with only a few boats," he said. "But, by this year it had grown to 54 entries." He finished second in 1987, but this year his boat was among the three leaders when the computer fuel injection system broke down on his Mercury 2.4 engines, forcing him out of the race.

Waves

He and his throttleman Ali Alwan are keeping their strategy for the race a secret, but have not in any case had much opportunity to assess the calibre of the local competition.

Al Sha'ali explained the importance of his throttleman. "He has to pay attention to the waves, so that he can reduce power at the right time," he explained. "Otherwise, if he leaves the engine at full power, when the boat jumps out of the water, the engine may break." Alwan has been with him for all the races. "Without him I can't race the boat."

Al Sha'ali intends to pursue a powerboat racing career at a higher level, but is keen to participate in all the races he can. He applauded Arab Times/Seyassah newspapers for organising this event, and also looked forward to seeing a series of such races each year.

free time

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